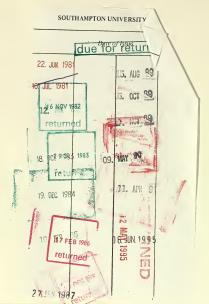
The elderly at home

A study of people aged sixty five and over living in the community in England in 1976

Audrey Hunt









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A survey carried out on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Security

Audrey Hunt

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the survey

The survey was carried out in January and February 1976 by the Social Survey Division of the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (SSD; OPCS) on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS). Its purpose was to investigate the social circumstances of elderly people, defined as men and women aged 65 and over, living in private households in the community. People living in residential institutions were excluded.

The findings, it is hoped, will enable health and social services which are heavily used by the elderly to be deployed to the best effect and also provide information which may make it possible to devise new forms of assistance for the elderly, so that in a time of stringency resources can be used to the best advantage.

1.2 The sample

Households containing elderly persons were identified by means of a postal questionnaire addressed to 'the occupier' at 11,849 addresses in England. The questionnaire asked the occupier to record the sex, age and marital status of all occupants. A response rate of 83 per cent was obtained.

Personal interviews were carried out at all responding addresses containing persons aged 75 and over and at half those containing persons aged 65–74 but none aged 75 and over (see later paragraph on weighting). In addition, interviewers called at half the addresses from which no response had been received. They attempted an interview at all such addresses containing persons aged 75 and over and at half those containing persons aged 65–74 but none aged 75 and over.

Successful interviews were achieved at 1,975 households containing 2,622 elderly persons.

Full details of sampling methods and response rates will be found in the Technical Sampling Appendix.

1.3 Pilot work

A pilot study was carried out in order to test the sampling method and the proposed questionnaire. Modifications were made to the latter in the light of experience gained in the course of the pilot study. Where these are of any significance they are commented on in the course of the report.

1.4 The questionnaire

The questionnaire was in three parts. The first part consisted of a record of the persons living in the household, the second of questions relating to the accommodation occupied by the household and the amenities possessed and the third of questions addressed to individual elderly persons. This covered health, mobility, social contacts, finance, employment, interests, hobbies and attitudes to life.

Copies of the questionnaires are appended to this report.

1.5 Proxy interviews

Normally the taking of proxy interviews is permitted only in very rare instances. In this survey, however, it was particularly important to obtain information about those too ill or infirm to be personally interviewed. The rules governing proxy interviews were therefore relaxed.

The first two parts of the questionnaire were allowed to be answered by any responsible adult, usually, but not always, a member of the household. This, in itself, did not constitute a proxy interview.

The third part, addressed to individuals, could be answered by another responsible adult on behalf of the individual(s) concerned. The responsible adult might be another elderly person who was also being interviewed. Where there were two or more elderly persons in a household interviews were frequently conducted jointly (the physical circumstances would have made this essential in many cases, because only one room was heated in many dwellings). In joint interviews one elderly person was occasionally helped by the other. No opinion questions or questions involving personal feelings were answered by proxies.

Because of the varying circumstances the numbers of proxy answers are not the same for all questions (an elderly person might feel capable of answering some questions but not others on his/her own) but in general terms it can be said that about three per cent of interviews were carried out with proxies and that one-quarter of these were on behalf of persons aged 85 and over.

1.6 Weighting

It was particularly desirable that the final sample should contain sufficient numbers of those aged 75 and over for detailed analysis. To do this within cost limitations it was decided to interview at only half the addresses identified as containing person(s) aged 65–74 unless the address also included person(s) aged 75 and over. To restore true proportions, therefore, the numbers of appropriate persons and households have been multiplied by a weighting factor of two. Only half the non-respondents to the postal survey were approached by interviewers, so that the numbers of all elderly persons and their households identified in this way have been weighted by an additional factor of two.

Full details are given in the technical sampling appendix. Here it may be said that the percentages and other proportions in this report relate to the whole elderly population and are based on figures weighted as described. Significance tests should be based on the actual numbers in the sample and its subgroups (described as 'unweighted figures'). Both sets of figures are shown in the major tables.

It is important to remember that the weighting factor is not entirely homogeneous within age-groups, as can be seen by looking at the weighted and unweighted figures.

1.7 Acknowledgements

A survey is always the product of the work of many people, and acknowledgements are due to the following.

First, we should like to thank those members of the public who completed and returned the postal questionnaire and thus enabled us to select our sample of elderly people. Secondly, we thank most warmly the elderly people interviewed, who spared us so much of their time to answer questions.

In Social Survey Division itself thanks are due to Brian Scammell and Delyth Owen who carried out the sampling, to Madge Brailsford and the interviewers who carried out a difficult assignment with enthusiasm, to Stella Chidley, Audrey Joiner, Tony Manners and the staff of Primary Analysis, who coded the questionnaires so expeditiously, and to Malcolm Ross who tackled an extremely complex computing operation with great success.

Above all, my thanks are due to Doris Evans, who worked with me throughout all stages of the survey and without whose help it would not have been possible to complete it.

2 Definitions

The following definitions apply throughout.

2.1 Elderly person

A person aged 65 or over at the time of the survey.

2.2 Elderly married couple

A married couple where one or both are elderly (including common-law marriages).

2.3 Household

A group of people living in the same accommodation who are catered for by the same housewife, having at least one meal a day provided by the housewife.

2.4 Head of household (HOH)

The person who owns or is responsible for the rent of the household accommodation provided he/she is present in the household and provided she is not a married woman whose husband is present. In the latter case her husband is treated as the head of household.

2.5 Elderly head

A head of household aged 65 or over, or a head aged less than 65 who is the husband of a woman aged 65 or over.

2.6 Younger head

A head of household aged less than 65 who is *not* the husband of a woman aged 65 or over.

2.7 Housewife (HW)

The person, other than a domestic servant, who is responsible for most of the household duties. A housewife may be male or female and may or may not have a paid job in addition to domestic responsibilities.

2.8 Boarder

A member of the household (see above) who is not related by blood or marriage to any other members of the household. A boarder receives at least one meal a day, for payment, provided by the housewife (NB a lodger, who rents accommodation only, is treated as a separate household).

2.9 Elderly non-married person

For the sake of brevity the term 'non-married' is used to describe single, widowed, divorced or legally separated people as a whole.

2.10 Mobility

A bedfast person is permanently confined to bed. A housebound person is permanently unable to go outside the dwelling, even by car. A person who goes out may require assistance (see chapter 10).

3.1 General introduction to summary

The survey was confined to elderly persons living in private households. According to the 1971 Census, about six per cent of elderly persons (by our definition) were living in institutions. The percentage increases from three per cent of those aged 65–74 to eight per cent among those aged 75–84 and to 21 per cent of those aged 85 and over. Over two-thirds of the institutions were hospitals or homes for the elderly. The summary and detailed findings need to be studied in this context.

The findings of the survey provide evidence that physical old age, in the sense that it is generally understood, does not begin at the age of 65 for the great majority of people. We found that nine-tenths of the people between the ages of 65 and 74 we interviewed are able to go out on their own without assistance, nearly half have no disability which limits their activities even to a minor extent and eight out of ten assert that their general health is good. The only personal tasks which occasion difficulty to more than a tiny number are bathing and cutting toenails. The same is true of domestic tasks apart from those which involve heavy work or climbing. Probably these difficulties are no greater than in the case of many younger people (1).

Physically then, the 65-74 year olds are, for the most part, not much more severely disadvantaged than the age-group immediately below their own. Socially there is insufficient evidence to make many comparisons with the younger age groups. They appear at least as likely as younger people to have hobbies, interests and social contacts. Many say categorically they do not consider themselves to be elderly and comparatively few go to social centres for the elderly. Their housing conditions and amenities are, in general, not greatly inferior to those of younger people. Although three out of ten are widowed, compared with the Census figure of one in inte of those aged 55-64, the increase is not nearly so great as that between those aged 65 to 74 and those aged 75-84 in our sample, of whom over half are widowed.

The 75-84 age-group shows a moderate decline in some things: mobility, health, ability to perform personal and

(1) Amelia Harris, in her Survey of the Handleapped and Impaired HMSG (1971), found that among those aged 50-6 the percentage with an impairment classed as 'very severe' or' severe' was 14.5 per cent, among those aged 65-74, 15.1 per cent and among those aged 75 and over 23.8 per cent. Her definition was based on a series of tests, including the ability to perform certain physical actions, and these figures cannot therefore be directly compared with any in the present survey, but they do support the hypothesis that the physical disadvantages of old age do not make themselves felt actuely for most people before the age of 75. domestic tasks, favourable attitudes to life. In other things there is a much sharper decline: in social contacts outside the home (except for centres for the elderly), in having hobbies and interests, an increase in widowhood and in living alone. Their standards of housing and amenities on average are lower.

Among those aged 85 and over, virtually all these trends are accelerated, although there are still many who enjoy good health and a full social life.

Having said that, as a group, those aged 65-74 are relatively less disadvantaged than the older age-groups, it must be emphasised that, because this group accounts for two-thirds of the population aged 65 and over, a comparatively small percentage of it in need of help of some kind may be equal, in absolute numbers, to a much larger percentage of the upper age-groups. For example, nearly half the people who neither make visits nor receive visits from friends and relatives are aged 65-74; three fifths of those who have no particular enjoyments in life are in this group.

The findings of this survey relate to the situation in early 1976. In planning for the future it is necessary to take into account both the factors which have led up to it and the anticipated changes in the future.

All of the elderly covered by the present survey were born before 1911 and have lived through two world wars and the intense depression of the thirties, with the attendant hardships. The oldest among them have retired or become widowed not very long after the 1939–45 war and have therefore not fully shared in the benefits of the social reforms and higher standards of living enjoyed by many of the working population since then. Although there are indications that some of the youngest group have benefited to an extent, most of these have retired before 1974, when occupational pensions schemes were fewer than at present. Their circumstances when working were possibly better than those of older people.

The numbers and composition of the elderly population will change in the coming years, according to an OPCS forecast⁽²⁾. The total population aged 65 and over is expected to increase between 1971 and 1991 by nearly a million but the number under 75 is expected to fall slightly, those aged 75–84 to increase by about 700,000 and those aged 85 and over by about 200,000. This appears to foreshadow an increase in the numbers of

(2) OPCS Monitor Reference PP2 75/1.

elderly people with problems of housing, mobility, health, loneliness and so on. How far this tendency may be offset by the carrying over into their later years of some of the more favourable aspects of the lives of the 65–74 year olds it is impossible to say. The findings of the survey, taken in conjunction with population forecasts, indicate that there is unlikely to be any diminution in overall needs but that needs may be more highly concentrated in particular groups.

Although we use the term 'elderly' throughout this report, it would be a mistake to assume that those aged 65 or over constitute a homogeneous population, many of whom are in immediate need of intensive help from many agencies. This would not even be true of those aged 85 and over. There are many groups whose health, living conditions and lack of social contact give cause for concern. We have tried to identify these in order that even in a time of stringency, they can receive appropriate and adequate help.

3.2 Demographic characteristics (Chapter 4)

Thirty per cent of elderly people live alone. Nearly 80 per cent of those who live alone are women: over 35 per cent are women aged 75 or more. The proportion of men who live alone (nearly 16 per cent) is much lower than the proportion of women (nearly 40 per cent). Although the percentage who live alone increases sharply with age for both sexes, comparing age-group with age-group the percentage of women who live alone always greatly exceeds the percentage of men.

Nearly 37 per cent of elderly persons live with an elderly spouse only and a further seven per cent with a non-elderly spouse only.

97 per cent of elderly people were born in Great Britain.

94 per cent of men and 69 per cent of women are heads of households (see definitions).

93 per cent of the households in which elderly people live have an elderly head⁽³⁾. 44 per cent of the elderly heads are women.

3.3 Economic background (Chapter 6)

In the case of the working population, classification by socio-economic group of the job done (or done by the husband of a non-working wife) provides a fairly adequate yardstick of the economic situation of the individual or family. In the case of the elderly non-working population, particularly the very old, women who have been widowed for many years and women who gave up work at an early age, such a classification does not seem relevant, except insofar as it may give some indication of the extent to which people may have been able to make provision for their old age. We have analysed the jobs

done for most of their working lives by men, single women, married women and widows who worked after the age of 55, and this information is given in the main part of the report. We feel however, that this approach is not very reliable in assessing the economic circumstances of elderly people, particularly as we have no information about the occupations of the former husbands of widows and divorced women.

We investigated sources of income and total income from all sources in some detail and these findings give a clear picture of the economic circumstances of all elderly people in our sample.

Almost half the married couples had at the time of the survey, total combined net incomes from all sources of less than £1,500 a year.⁽⁴⁾ Almong the group where neither husband nor wife was working the proportion reaches nearly three-fifths (this group accounts for three-quarters of all elderly couples). Fewer than one couple in ten had combined net incomes of £3,000 a year or more.

Twenty eight per cent of all non-married women and 18 per cent of all non-married men had total incomes of less tha £750 a year. About one woman in thirty and about one man in twelve had incomes of £2,000 or more. (5)

There is a marked decline in income level with age.

Half of the married couples living on their own had incomes of less than £1,500 and 68 per cent of non-married people living alone had incomes of less than £1,000. 61 per cent of non-married people with incomes of less than £1,000 lived alone.

Fourteen per cent of married couples and 28 per cent of non-married persons are solely dependent on the State retirement pension and/or supplementary benefits. (SB)

Fifty one per cent of husbands, compared with six per cent of wives, have pensions from previous employers. Among non-married men and women the figures are 46 per cent and 20 per cent respectively. The latter may include pensions from late husbands' employers.

Low income is associated with lack of assets or very small assets. In addition to the 12 per cent who receive supplementary benefit 11 per cent of married couples have incomes of less than £1,500 a year together with assets of less than £300. Among non-married persons, 31 per cent of the total receive SB and a further 13 per cent have incomes of less than £750 together with assets of less than £300.

⁽³⁾ Including two per cent where the titular head is the non-elderly husband of an elderly wife.

⁽⁴⁾ At the time of the survey the average weekly earnings of adult male full-time workers were £69 and of adult female full-time workers £40 (ie roughly £3,600 and £2,000 per annum respectively).

⁽⁵⁾ Assistance given in the form of rent or rate rebates is not included in income. These are dealt with in the paragraphs relating to housing.

Three quarters of elderly married couples and 59 per cent of non-married persons have one or more regular outgoings in addition to housing costs (TV rental, assurance, clothing club, HP, others). The percentage decreases with age. Among married couples those with incomes of £3,000 or more are less likely to have regular outgoings. Among non-married people both those with incomes under £750 and those with incomes of £1,500 or more are less likely to have them.

3.4 Accommodation: tenure and costs (Chapter 7)

We shall refer frequently here to heads of household. It is the case of a married couple the husband is the head, even if the accommodation is held in the wife's name or jointly. As a consequence, three-quarters of elderly women heads, compared with one-sixth of elderly men heads, are living alone. Three-quarters of the men heads consist of the male partner of an elderly married couple.

Over nine-tenths of households containing elderly persons have an elderly head.

The proportion of households who own their accommodation outright (between 40 and 50 per cent) is almost the same among households with elderly and younger heads, but the proportion with a mortgage is much lower among the former (three per cent compared with 28 per cent). The difference is accounted for by the much higher proportion of tenants among elderly heads (31 per cent council, 17 per cent private, compared with 18 and 6 per cent among younger heads). Three per cent of elderly heads and one per cent of non-elderly live rent free.

Among elderly heads the level of home ownership is particularly high in retirement areas (64 per cent) and particularly low in the North (36 per cent) and in Greater London (37 per cent). The level of council tenancy is high (33 per cent) in the North region and that of private tenancy in Greater London (33 per cent).

(We shall show that the form of tenure is associated with the presence or absence of many amenities).

Over one-third⁽⁶⁾ of elderly householders receive assistance from local authorities in the form of rent rebates, rent allowances and/or rates rebates. About one-sixth receive assistance towards housing costs in the form of supplementary benefits.⁽⁶⁾ Therefore at least half the elderly householders receive assistance from meanstested benefits. In the light of this finding, it can be said that younger heads who have elderly people living with them are making an appreciable contribution towards the upkeep of the elderly.

In the case of some elderly householders the cost of housing is reduced at source by rent and rates rebates. In

3.5 Accommodation: type and amenities (Chapter 8)

Over three-fifths of households with elderly heads and over four-fifths of those with younger heads occupy whole houses. Eight per cent of households with elderly heads live in special old people's dwellings. Elderly people living alone and those aged 85 and over are more likely than others to be living in old people's dwellings, but even in these groups only about one in seven do so.

Roughly one-third of all dwellings were built pre-1919, one-third between 1919 and 1945 and one-third since 1945. The proportion of pre-1919 dwellings is well above average among those living in Greater London (nearly half) and private tenants (three-quarters). It is well below average among council tenants (one in twenty: nearly two-thirds of these live in postwar dwellings).

According to interviewers' assessments nearly seven out of ten dwellings occupied by households with elderly heads are in good condition externally and seven out of ten internally. The proportion is slightly higher among households with a younger head. The standards are markedly below average both externally and internally among: households with heads aged 85 and over (only just over half good); those in Greater London (three-fifths approximately); private tenants (roughly one-third good externally, nearly half good internally).

Overcrowding, in terms of persons per room, is not a problem for most households with elderly heads, but among households with younger heads it appears that in some cases the amount of living space is less satisfactory. This indicates that there are problems for some younger people in having elderly relatives to live with them.

Virtually all households have a separate unshared kitchen⁽⁷⁾. The only exception is the small group who live rent free, where 88.5 per cent have a separate kitchen and 12.5 per cent of these share.

Nine out of ten households with an elderly head have a bathroom (four per cent of these are shared). Nineteen out of twenty of those with a younger head have one (one per cent shared). Groups whose standards are markedly below average are: private tenants (two-thirds, seven per cent shared); those in Greater London (less than eight out of ten, 10 per cent shared); those living rent free (eight out of ten, 17 per cent shared).

other cases they pay the full amount but receive assistance in the form of supplementary benefit. It is therefore not legitimate to make detailed comparisons of the actual amounts paid. However, it can be said that the level is highest in the case of owner-occupiers who are still repaying mortgages and lowest for those who own outright. The level is higher among council tenants than among private tenants.

⁽⁷⁾ Defined as a room in which cooking is done. A room which is also used for sleeping is treated as a bedroom. 'Shared' means shared with another household.

⁽⁶⁾ These are probably understatements (see Chapter 7).

Twelve per cent of households containing elderly people have an outside lavatory only. Among private tenants the figure is 35 per cent. It must also be a cause for concern that 15 per cent of households where the head is aged 85 or over have an outside lavatory only. Roughly one-third of all households have an inside lavatory on the same level as both bedroom and living room, slightly more on the same level as the bedroom and one-tenth on the same level as the living room. In about one-quarter of households elderly people have to go up (or down) at least 11 stairs from living room to lavatory and in about one-fifth from bedroom to lavatory.

Ninety-two per cent of households with an elderly head and 99 per cent of those with a younger head have a hot water supply (93 per cent of all households). Those markedly worse off are: private tenants (77 per cent); those in Greater London (83 per cent); those living rent free (85 per cent).

Virtually all households have electricity, over two-thirds have mains gas. Where there is a choice of fuels for cooking that which was cheaper at the time of the survey (gas) is more likely to be used for cooking.

Thirty per cent of bedrooms occupied by the elderly are unheated. In the Northwest region, the West Midlands region and among private tenants roughly 40 per cent of bedrooms are unheated. In terms of individuals 30 per cent of all elderly persons have unheated bedrooms.

Three per cent of households use no heating in the living room (possibly the kitchen is used for sitting and other activities).

Just over half (51 per cent) of all households do not heat halfs or passages, 37 per cent do not heat the bathroom, 60 per cent do not heat the lavatory, 48 per cent have no additional heating in the kitchen.

In all cases households with younger heads have better provisions for heating on average, while private tenants and households where the head is aged 85 or over have worse provisions.

Forty per cent of households use solid fuels. About one in ten of all elderly householders have to go more than 10 feet outside in order to fetch solid fuel.

Households with elderly heads are much less likely than those with younger heads to own items of domestic equipment which are taken for granted by many younger people nowadays. For example, 53 per cent of households with an elderly head own a washing machine and 75 per cent a refrigerator, compared with 83 and 95 per cent of those with younger heads. Among households with elderly heads the decrease in the level of ownership with increasing age is very striking.

Forty-four per cent of households have a telephone, but only 35 per cent of elderly living alone and 35 per cent of households with heads aged 85 or over have a

telephone. A majority of telephones are 11 or more stairs distant from elderly persons' bedrooms.

Over seven-tenths of households with an elderly head have no car, while for those with a younger head the figure is just over one-quarter. In terms of elderly persons, two-thirds live in households with no car. Among the elderly living alone 85 per cent have no car (we deal later with the use of cars by elderly persons).

Out of a prompt list of aids for people of limited mobility, the only ones possessed by as many as one in ten households are: non-slip bath mat (just over onequarter); rail in bathroom (one-seventh); bath seat (one in nine). Just over one-quarter have some means of summoning aid in emergency, but in eight per cent of households this is stated to be the telephone, and we have already shown that the telephone is frequently situated in a relatively inaccessible place. Apart from the bell or buzzer, mentioned by six per cent, the remaining methods depend heavily on the vigilance of neighbours and on the ability of someone in the household to take physical action (eg knock on wall). Even among the most vulnerable groups (those where the head is aged 85 or over and those living alone) only just over onequarter and just over one-third respectively have ways of signalling for help, many of which are subject to the disadvantages already described.

The only individual aid to movement used by at least one member in more than three per cent of households is a walking stick, used in nearly one in five households. It is noteworthy that one in eleven users of wheel chairs and one in eight users of crutches are non-elderly persons. The use of these two aids by elderly people does not appear to be age-related whereas the extent of use of a stick increases sharply with age, particularly among women.

Four-fifths of all households (nearly nine-tenths of those with a young head) have a garden. Only an insignificant number of younger heads say their households cannot manage their gardens but among households with elderly heads one in seven (one out of six garden owners) cannot manage. The proportion who cannot manage is much higher among those living alone, those with an elderly woman head and (particularly so) among those with a head aged 85 and over. Nevertheless a majority of those who cannot manage the garden or have difficulty in doing so say they are glad to have their gardens and would not want to be without. It can be said that help with the garden would be a worthwhile form of assistance to many elderly people, particularly those living alone, those where the head of household is aged 85 years or older and those where the head is an elderly woman.

3.6 Employment (Chapter 9)

Roughly one-sixth of the elderly men and one-twentieth of elderly women were working at the time of the survey. All these are under 80 years of age: two-thirds are under

70. Compared with the 1971 Census there appears to have been a decrease in the percentage of workers among those aged 65 and over, accompanied by an increase in part-time working.

The jobs done by the elderly workers are on average, of a lower socio-economic group (SEG) than those of the population as a whole, particularly so in the case of elderly women.

Over half the men workers and over one-quarter of women workers have changed jobs at retirement age, over half because of compulsory retirement.

In spite of having had to move to new jobs which are in many cases inferior to their formers jobs, nine-tenths of men workers and all the women enjoy their jobs. Most expect to continue to work for as long as they are fit or are allowed to by their employers.

Four per cent of men gave up work between the ages of 40 and 59, 18 per cent between 60 and 64, 37 per cent at age 65 and 25 per cent over that age. Taking into account those still working 41 per cent of all elderly men have continued to work beyond the State retirement age, but the proportion is much higher among those aged 75 and over.

The age at which women of different ages gave up working reflects clearly the change in women's employment patterns in recent years. Three out of ten of those aged 65-74 gave up at age 40 or earlier, or never worked, compared with over half of those aged 85 and over. However, one in nine of women aged 85 or over worked until they were 71 or older.

Nearly half the men would have liked to continue working beyond the age at which they gave up. If we exclude women who gave up work before the age of 40 (ie those who gave up long before the present trend began) the same proportion of women would have liked to continue working.

Over half those who changed jobs at retirement age (both men and women) would have liked to continue working at their former jobs.

3.7 Mobility, health, ability to look after themselves (Chapter 10)

Of our sample 0.3 per cent are permanently bedfast. A further 4.2 per cent are permanently confined to the dwelling. The figures are lower than were found in earlier surveys, possibly as a result of slight differences in definition and of the increase in car ownership.

Nine out of ten of the whole sample are able to go out without assistance, but among those aged 85 and over less than half are able to do so.

Comparing age-group with age-group, women are more likely to be bedfast or housebound or to need help when going out than are men.

The sample as a whole consists of two-fifths men, threefifths women. Among bedfast and housebound the proportions are three-tenths men, seven-tenths women. Half the bedfast and housebound are aged 80 or more. The most serious aspect of the problem of mobility is that one-quarter of the bedfast and housebound live alone. Nearly one-fifth have not been outside their homes for over three years.

Including the bedfast and housebound nearly threefifths have some kind of disability⁽⁸⁾. The proportion rises from just over half among those aged 65–74 to over three-quarters among those aged 85 and over.

According to informants' own statements arthritic and rheumatic conditions are the leading cause of loss of mobility, followed by cardiac and pulmonary conditions. The principal effects are to impede various kinds of movement.

In spite of disabilities, over three-quarters say that, in general, they enjoy good health. The proportion falls with age, but even among those aged 85 and over three-fifths claim to enjoy good health.

Among personal tasks, the one which is most likely to cause difficulty is cutting toenals, which one-quarter cannot do unaided(one-fifth need to have the whole task done for them). Other tasks which cause difficulty to appreciable numbers are bathing, going out of doors on own and using public transport. The incidence of difficulty increases with age, the increase being particularly marked in the case of bathing. It is important to remember, however, that because of the higher total numbers in the younger age-groups the numbers of younger elderly who require help with tasks are frequently as great as the number of those in the highest age-groups.

Probably the most serious aspect of difficulty with personal tasks is the problem of those who live alone and are unable to perform tasks which are a frequent necessity (getting in and out of bed, getting to the lavatory, getting around the dwelling). These people are few in number, but their complete dependence on outsiders must cause difficulties, at least occasionally. In terms of numbers, those who claim to receive none or inadequate help with cutting toenails exceed all others. This is the one task where an appreciable number receive help from non-relatives or friends — og from a chiropodist.

Between seven and twelve per cent of the sample say they are not warm enough all the time in each of the following places: in bed; in the living room; in the kitchen; out of doors.

(8) It should be noted that the word 'disability' here and elsewhere is based on the answers to specific questions which called for a selfdiagnosis by the informant or a proxy. We would not therefore be justified in using the terminology 'impairment, disability or handicap' as this would imply greater precision than is warranted. The domestic tasks which are most likely to prove impossible for elderly people are mainly those involving agility and the ability to exert muscular force (eg jobs involving climbing; heavy gardening; repairs and redecoration). Ignorance sometimes appears to be a contributory factor (sewing for men; minor repairs for women). Most of the help received comes from within the household and jobs are more likely to be left undone in the case of the elderly living alone.

Household shopping is done, wholly or partly, by threequarters of those able to go out. Except in the case of those living alone, help is most often given by another elderly member of the household (usually the spouse). Apart from the bedfast and housebound, among those living alone seven-tenths are able to do all their shopping and help is most likely to be provided by relatives and/or friends. The bedfast and housebound living alone depend very heavily on the assistance of friends and not very close relatives and on Local Authority (LA) home help.

3.8 Visits from social services and similar bodies (Chapter 11)

One-quarter of elderly people have received no visits during the past six months from any of a selected list of people from health and social services and voluntary organisations. For nearly another quarter the insurance man is the only one mentioned. He is the most frequently named visitor: nearly half mention him. One-third have been visited by a doctor and one-sixth by a minister of religion. No other person in the prompt list is named by as many as one in ten.

By no means all our informants are in need of such visits, but some vulnerable groups do not appear to receive as many visits or visitors as seem to be desirable. For example, among the bedfast and housebound less than one-third have seen a doctor as often as once a month, just over one-fifth have seen a health visitor during the past six months and just over one-third have seen a district nurse. Although the groups which appear to be in greatest need of visits from a home help are most likely to receive them (those aged 85 and over; those living alone; bedfast and housebound) a majority in each group do not receive them.

3.9 Social contacts (Chapter 12)

One out of five elderly people have lived for less than ten years in their present neighbourhood. In 'retirement areas' the proportion is nearly double. Those who have moved within the past ten years have mostly done so within region or to an adjacent region. The leading reason for moving, given by 40 per cent of movers, is to be near relatives.

One-quarter of the whole elderly population consists of widowed persons living alone, of whom one-third will have done so for ten years or more. One elderly person in twenty has no living close relatives apart from those in the household, if any, and a further one in twenty never receive visits from relatives. The proportions are almost the same for those living alone. Londoners are worse off than others. Visiting relatives give some form of help to 42 per cent of elderly persons. 27 per cent of all elderly persons would like (more) visits from relatives. 71 per cent of elderly persons receive visits from friends. 15 per cent would like more visits. Fewer than one in ten receive help from friends.

Bedfast and housebound people are less likely than the more mobile to have living relatives to to receive visits from relatives or friends. They are, not surprisingly, much more anxious to receive visits.

Including bedfast and housebound, 15 percent of elderly people never visit relatives or friends. Among those aged 85 and over the proportion reaches 39 per cent. Twenty two per cent give some form of help to relatives and 11 per cent to friends whom they visit.

Only one elderly person in 50 neither receives nor makes any visits but among bedfast and housebound this proportion rises to one in seven.

Less than 20 per cent of elderly persons go to social centres specially for elderly people. Apart from those who say they are poor mixers, or whose health prevents them, a majority of those who do not go give reasons which imply that they think such centres are intended for those without friends or for people much older than themselves.

About one quarter go to other social centres. The percentage decreases with age.

Taking the two sets of figures together shows that a majority of elderly people do not go to any kind of social centre.

Only two fifths of elderly people both have access to a telephone and can use it without difficulty. Even where they can do so the telephone appears to be little used for social contacts: a majority make and receive none or not more than five social calls a week. Among the bedfast and housebound with a telephone over half make no calls and half receive none. The situation is almost the same for those aged 85 and over.

About one elderly person in seven never receives letters from friends or relatives: at the other end of the scale one in ten had received six or more during the previous fortnight. Among divorced persons and the housebound and bedfast one in five never receives letters.

Taking social contacts with people outside the household as a whole, the housebound and bedfast are undoubtedly the most severely isolated. Other groups who are relatively badly off in this respect are those aged 85 and over and divorced persons.

3.10 Relationships with neighbours (Chapter 13)

Of all elderly 72 per cent get on 'very well' with their neighbours, but among the bedfast and housebound the percentage falls to 48 per cent.

Ten per cent of the sample say they would not feel able to ask any neighbours for help in an emergency. Among bedfast and housebound it is 24 per cent.

3.11 Transport and accessibility (Chapter 14)

Two-thirds of elderly persons live in households with no cars. Nine-tenths of those living alone, compared with two-fifths of those living with younger people, have no car. The percentage with a car and the percentage with a driving licence falls sharply with age. It seems possible that this is not entirely due to increasing infirmity but may to some extent be a consequence of the fact that car ownership and holding a driving licence were much less common at the time when older age-groups might, had circumstances been different, acquired a car and the necessary skill to drive. It may be that in future car ownership will be commoner than at present among the older age-groups.

All elderly people in households with a car go out by car, whether they drive or not. About a third of those without cars are taken out a least once a fortnight by people outside the household. Visiting, shopping, pleasure trips, holidays, medical visits, are the main purposes for which cars are used.

The level of car ownership and use is much lower in Greater London than elsewhere.

Two-thirds of elderly people live in areas where there are special transport facilities for the elderly. There are wide differences between areas, the best-off being Greater London and the worst-off the 'retirement areas'. Apart from Greater London there are marked differences within region in the nature of the facilities provided. A majority of elderly who are aware that facilities exist make use of these facilities.

Four-fifths of elderly are within ten minutes' walk of the nearest public transport. Over half are able to walk to the nearest chemist's shop (three-fifths can get there within ten minutes). Nine-tenths of those who go to pubs walk there (three-quarters within ten minutes). Threequarters walk to the nearest post office (seven-tenths can get there within ten minutes). The doctor's surgery is the only one of the listed amenities for which a majority (albeit a small one) require some means of transport and for which a majority take more than ten minutes over the journey. As might be expected, the use of transport increases with increasing age. There are also marked regional differences (Londoners are more likely than others to walk to each amenity).

3.12 Interests, hobbies, attitudes to life (Chapter 15)

Taken overall, compared with evidence from other sources, elderly people are as likely as younger to have hobbies and interests. There is, however, a very marked falling-off with increasing age in the proportions who keep pets, who participate in voluntary organisations, who have individual hobbies and interests, who have any hobbies at all. To some extent this is reflected in their attitudes to life, although those aged 85 and over are not so much less contented as perhaps might be expected.

The bedfast and housebound are undoubtedly least able to maintain activities and are not unexpectedly much less contented than other groups. The most contented group of all is that of elderly workers.

Ill-health is the principal thing disliked, followed by loneliness. Financial difficulty is mentioned by comparatively few, but when asked for suggestions to help elderly people, financial suggestions predominate. However, a higher proportion want volunteers to chat or for company than any other single form of help.

3.13 Income and material and other circumstances (Chapter 16)

Not surprisingly, those with lower incomes are less welloff in terms of household amenities and equipment. This may of course, be a consequence of previous experience as well as present financial circumstances.

In terms of less tangible things lower income elderly appear to suffer more ill-health and to be less able to enjoy the positive aspects of life.

4 Demographic characteristics of samples of elderly persons and households

4.1 Sex and age of elderly persons

We compare below the sex and age composition of the achieved sample of elderly persons with the Registrar General's estimates for June 1975.

The two sets of figures are in reasonable agreement, particularly when we take into account the fact that the Registrar-General's estimates cover the whole population, including those in institutions, while the survey is

confined to households. Elderly people in institutions are older on average than the elderly population as a whole, which accounts, at least in part, for the slightly lower percentages of the older groups in the sample.

The mean ages of the sample are:

All persons	72.8 years
Men	71.9 years
Women	73.3 years

Table 4.1.1 Sex of elderly persons in sample (by age)

	Survey				R-G's	R-G's estimates		
	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons								
WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(2.571)	(1.089)	(209)				
unweighted figures)			(1,063)					
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
ex:					,,,	70	70	10
Aen .	39.8	42.8	35.3	26.3	38.8	44.7	40.8	31.2
Vomen	60.2	57.2	64.7	73.7	61.2	55.3	59.2	68.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.1.2 Age of elderly persons in sample (by sex)

	Survey		R-G's e	R-G's estimates			
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,540)	(2,329)				
unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(1,340)	(1,628)				
anneighted lightes)	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Age:			,,	/-	70	70	
5-69	36.4	41.8	32.8	36.1	41.6	32.5	
)-74	30.0	29.7	30.3	28.2	29.6	27.3	
5-79	18.0	17.2	18.5	18.5	16.3	19.8	
0-84	10.1	7.7	11.7	10.6	8.2	12.1	
5-89	4.2	3.1	4.9	6.7	4.0		
0 & over	1.2	0.5	1.8	6.7	4.3	8.3	
otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

4.2 Marital status

Differences between the sex, age and marital status of elderly persons living in different regions or in different types of area are not, in general, statistically significant.

An exception is the difference between the marital status of those living in Greater London and those living elsewhere.

Table 4.2.1 Marital status of elderly persons (by age)

	Elderly	Unweighted			us		
persons figures WEIGHTED		figures	ngures		Widowed	Single	Divorced/ separated
Men			-				
65-74	(1,101)	(565)	%	79.2	14.1	4.6	2.1 = 100.0
75-84	(384)	(375)	%	68.0	29.7	1.6	0.8
85 & over	(55)	(54)	%	36.4	50.9	12.7	-
All men	(1,540)	(1,194)	%	74.9	19.3	4.2	1.7
Women							
65-74	(1,470)	(789)	%	47.8	39.0	10.0	3.2
75-84	(705)	(688)	%	23.3	64.3	11.1	1.4
85 & over	(154)	(151)	%	5.8	83.1	9.7	1.3
All women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	37.6	49.5	10.3	2.5
All persons	(3,869)	(2,822)	%	52.4	37.5	7.9	2.2

Table 4.2.2 Age of elderly persons (by marital status)

	Marital status				
	Total	Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced/ separated
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(2,029)	(1,451)	(304)	(85)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(1,297)	(1,069)	(208)	(48) %
Men	70	70	70	76	70
55-74	28.5	43.0	10.7	16.8	27.1
75-84	9.9	12.9	7.9	2.0	3.5
5 & over	1.4	1.0	1.9	2.3	-
otal men	39.8	56.9	20.5	21.0	30.6
Vomen					
5-74	38.0	34.6	39.5	48.4	55.3
5-84	18.2	8.1	31.2	25.7	11.8
5 & over	4.0	0.4	8.8	4.9	2.4
Total women	60.2	43.1	79.5	79.0	69.4
Grand Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

	WEIGHTED	Unweighted	Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced/ separated
Greater London	(472)	(313) %	45.3	37.5	13.1	4.0 = 100.0
Elsewhere	(3,397)	(2,309) %	53.4	37.5	7.1	1.9

4.3 Country of birth; ethnic group

Of those interviewed 97.2 per cent were born in Great Britain. The percentage is slightly, but not significantly, higher among those aged 85 and over (98.1 per cent). It is evident that the problems of the present generation of elderly are primarily those of the indigenous population.

96.1 per cent of the fathers and 96.2 per cent of the mothers of the elderly persons were also born in Great Britain.

1.4 per cent of the sample are coloured. Perhaps surprisingly the percentage is significantly higher among those aged 85 and over (5.7 per cent compared with 1.3 per cent). A possible explanation may be that the post-war immigrants were mainly younger people of working age who have not yet reached the age of 65, while the very old have been in this country for a very long time⁽¹⁾.

There was virtually no immigration during the thirties and forties from countries whose populations are predominantly non-white.

Population Trends No. 9 gives a figure of 3.3 per cent of the whole population of Great Britain as being of New Commonwealth or Pakistani origin.

4.4 Household status of elderly persons

In this time of the Sex Discrimination Act the commonly used definition of the head of the household is something of an anachronism. It is, however necessary sometimes to make comparisons with other statistics, including the Census, so we give this definition here.

The head of the household is the person who owns or is responsible for the rent of the household accommodation, provided he/she is present in the household and provided she is not a married woman whose husband is

present. In the latter case her husband is treated as the head of household.

The housewife is the person, other than a domestic servant, who is responsible for most of the household duties. A housewife may be male or female and he or she may or may or may not have a paid job in addition to her domestic responsibilities.

Household status is important because it shows the extent of responsibility for financial and domestic matters which old people have.

Table 4.4.1 Household status of elderly persons (by age within sex)

	Grand total						Women - age		
		All men	65-74	75-84	85 & over	All	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,540)	(1,101)	(384)	(55)	(2,329)	(1,470)	(705)	(154)
unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(994)	(565)	(375)	(54)	(1,628)	(789)	(688)	(151)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
itatus:								70	70
Both head & housewife	36.4	18.7	16.5	23.4	29.1	48.2	42.7	57.2	59.1
lead, not housewife	32.1	75.8	79.8	68.8	45.5	3.2	2.0	4.5	7.8
lousewife, not head	23.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	-	39.3	49,9	24.4	7.1
leither	7.6	5.1	3.3	7.3	25.4	9.3	5.4	13.9	
	7.0	3.1	5.5	7.3	20.4	9.3	5.4	15.9	26.0
otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Women are more likely thanmen to have to shoulder the double burden of financial and domestic responsibility. This is a consequence of their greater longevity. Among both sexes the percentage who are both heads and housewives increases sharply with age.

The figures reflect the changing life-style of people from the age of 65 onwards. The increased percentages who are both head and housewife (accompanied by decreased percentages who are one or other but not both) are the effects of the loss of a spouse and the need for the survivor to assume both responsibilities. The increase in the percentages who are neither head nor housewife follow from the need for older people to give up their own homes and live in the households of others.

Table 4.4.2 Household status of elderly persons (by size of household and type of household)

	Size of household			Type of h	household			
	One	Two	Three or more	Elderly person alone	Elderly married couple only(1)	Elderly siblings only(1)	Others, one elderly	Others, more than one elderly
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,144) (809)	(2,120) (1,406)	(605) (407)	(1,144) (809)	(1,705) (1,099)	(108) (82)	(556) (379)	(356) (253)
Status:	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Both head & housewife	100.0	10.8	6.3	100.0	1.0	34.3	34.2	6.2
lead, not housewife		47.5	38.7	-	54.8	15.7	29.1	35.7
lousewife, not head	-	37.4	21.5	-	43.2	15.7	7.7	35.4
leither	-	4.3	33.6	-	1.0	34.3	29.0	22.8
otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0	100,0

(1) One or both elderly.

To interpret these figures it is necessary to take into account both the definitions of heads and housewives and the nature of the households.

Obviously an elderly person living alone must be both head and housewife. Two-person and larger households cover a variety of situations, including those where there are younger people, one of whom may be the head and/or housewife. The figures here therefore show the extent of responsibility of elderly persons living in households of different sizes.

When we consider different types of household the figures need some explanation. They are based on elderly *persons* living in each type of household with the result that in the elderly married couple category we

include a small number of elderly persons with a nonelderly spouse. The few cases where a person is both head and housewife cover instances where the wife is so infirm that the husband has to undertake the housewife's responsibilities. These are exactly counterbalanced by wives who are neither. If all the married couples consisted of two elderly persons, the percentage of heads only would equal the percentage of housewise only. However, the number of elderly men with the nonelderly wives exceeds the number of elderly women with non-elderly husbands and therefore the percentage of heads only (who must be men by definition) exceeds the percentage of housewise only.

Among siblings the figures balance exactly.

Among other types of family with one elderly person, the group who are both head and housewife will almost all be women and are likely to include a majority of widows whose children⁽²⁾ live with them (ie in the widow's home). The head, not housewife, group may be either sex. It would include elderly widowers whose

(2) ie grown-up children, except in rare cases.

Table 4.4.3 Household status of elderly persons (by employment

	Employme	nt status
	Working	Not working
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(372)	(3,497)
(unweighted figures)	(206)	(2,416)
()	%	%
Status:		
Both head and housewife	28.0	37.3
Head, not housewife	54.6	29.7
Housewife, not head	11.8	25.1
Neither	5.6	7.8
Total	100.0	100.0

children live with them and elderly widows whose children live with them and a daughter undertakes the housewife's responsibilities. Those who are neither head nor housewife are living with someone else whose home it is and who is therefore head.

The percentage who are both head and housewife is much lower in other households with more than one elderly. The percentages who are head only and who are

Table 4.4.4 Some demographic characteristics of elderly people (by household status)

	Household st	atus			
	Total	Both head and housewife	Head only	Housewife only	Neither
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,410)	(1,241)	(923)	(295)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(993) %	(789) %	(604)	(236)
Men	5%	%	%	%	%
65-74	28.5	12.9	70.7	0.5	12.2
75-84	9.9	6.4	21.3	0.2	9.5
85 & over	1.4	1.1	2.0	0.2	4.7
35 00 0101	1.4	1.1	2.0		4./
All men	39.8	20.4	94.0	0.8	26.4
Women					
65-74	38.0	44.5	2.4	79.4	26.8
75-84	18.2	28.6	2.6	18.6	33.2
85 & over	4.0	6.5	1.0	1.2	13.6
All women	60.2	79.6	6.0	99.2	73.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons in household					
One	29.6	81.1	-	_	-
Гwо	54.8	16.2	81.1	85.9	31.2
Three or more	15.6	2.7	18.9	14.1	68.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of household					
Elderly person alone	29.6	81.1	-	-	-
Elderly married couple only	44.1	1.2	75.3	79.8	5.4
Elderly siblings only	2.8	2.6	1.4	1.8	12.5
Others - one elderly person	14.4	13.5	13.1	4.7	54.6
Others - more than one elderly	9.2	1.6	10.2	13.7	27.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Employment					
Working	9.6	7.4	16.4	4.8	7.1
Not working	90.4	92.6	83.6	95.2	92.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

housewife only almost exactly balance. It is reasonable to conclude that these are almost all elderly married couples living with others, usually their children.

There is thus a small group, amounting to 3.8 per cent of all elderly, who have both the responsibility for running the home and also for doing a paid job.

The comparison with the total sample emphasises the predominance of women in the dual role of head of household and housewife.

4.5 Number of persons in households

Details are given in table 4.5.1, which shows the percentages of elderly people who live in households of different sizes.

The percentage of one-person households (that is, of elderly people living alone) increases sharply with in-

creasing age. For each age-group the percentage of women living alone considerably exceeds the percentage of men. This is, of course, a natural consequence of the greater longevity of women.

If we look at the figures another way and consider the sex and age composition of elderly people living in households of different sizes, we can identify the types of elderly people who are most likely to be living alone and who therefore may now or in future suffer the disadvantages of so doing.

Nearly four-fifths of elderly people living alone are women: over one-third are women aged 75 or more. Although these are the people who may be suffering from loneliness and other difficulties at present, changing social conditions and increased longevity may alter the demographic characteristics of the elderly living alone.

Table 4.5.1 Number of persons in households in which elderly people live (by age within sex of elderly persons)

	Men and	dwomen			Men				Women			
	Grand	Age			All	Age			All	Age		
	total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	men .	65-74	75-84	85 & over	women	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons												
WEIGHTED	3,869	2,571	1.089	209	1,540	1,101	384	55	2,329	1,470	705	154
					2,010	7,101	501		2,029	1,470	703	1.54
(unweighted figures)	2,622	1,354	1,063	205	994	565	375	54	1,628	789	688	151
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Number of persons				,	70	70	,,,	70	70	70	70	70
One	29.6	25.0	37.4	44.0	15.6	13.6	19.8	27.3	38.8	33.6	47.1	50.0
Гwo	54.8	59.4	48.1	33.0	66.9	68.4	64.8	50.9	46.8	52.6	39.0	26.6
Three	9.6	9.7	8.3	15.3	11.1	11.8	8.6	14.5	8.6	8.1	8.1	15.6
our or more	6.0	5.9	6.2	7.7	6.3	6.1	6.8	7.3	5.9	5.7	5.8	7.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Average number	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9

Table 4.5.2 Sex and age of elderly persons (by number of persons in household)

	Number	of persons in	household		
	Total	One	Two	Three	Four or more
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,144) (809)	(2,120) (1,406) %	(371) (256) %	(234) (151) %
Men			,,,	,,,	70
65-74	28.5	13.1	35.6	35.0	28.6
74-84	9.9	6.6	11.7	8.9	11.1
85 or over	1.4	1.3	1.3	2.2	1.7
Total men	39.8	21.1	48.6	46.1	41.5
Women					
55 – 74	38.0	43.2	36.5	32.1	35.9
75-84	18.2	29.0	13.0	15.4	17.5
85 or over	4.0	6.7	1.9	6.5	5.1
Total women	60.2	78.9	51.4	54.0	58.5
Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

4.6 Type of household

In table 4.6.1 we describe in some detail the types of households in which elderly people live (it should be noted that the table shows the percentages of elderly people who live in each type of household).

Taken overall, the great majority of elderly people live

on their own or with elderly spouses only. There are, however, some marked differences between the sexes and between age-groups.

Men of all ages are more likely to be living with their wives and women are more likely to be living alone. This is of course a consequence of the greater longevity of women.

Table 4.6.1 Type of household in which elderly people live (by age within sex of elderly persons)

	Men and	d women			Men				Women			
	Grand	Age			All	Age			All	Age		
	total	65-74	75-84	85 or over	men	65-74		85 or over	women	65-74	75-84	85 or over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	3,869	2,571	1,089	209	1,540	1,101	384	55	2,329	1,470	705	154
(unweighted figures)	2,622	1,354	1,063	205	994	565	375	54	1,628	789	688	151
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Type of household								70	70	70	70	70
One elderly person alone One elderly person with	29.6	25.0	37.4	44.0	15.6	13.6	19.8	27.3	38.8	33.6	47.1	50.0
non-elderly spouse only One elderly person with	7.4	10.4	1.7	-	15.8	20.5	4.4	-	1.9	2.9	0.3	-
next generation only One elderly person, non- elderly spouse + next	6.7	4.3	10.6	17.2	2.9	2.0	4.2	. 10.9	9.3	6.0	14.0	19.5
generation One elderly person with	-1.7	2.4	0.3	-	4.2	5.6	0.8	-		-	-	-
others Elderly married couple	5.9	5.6	6.4	7.7	4.7	4.2	6.0	7.2	6.7	6.7	6.7	7.7
only	36.7	40.2	33.1	11.5	46.0	43.5	55.5	30.9	30.4	37.8	20.9	4.5
Elderly siblings only Elderly married couple with next generation	2.8	2.3	3.9	2.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	5.5	4.0	3.4	5.5	1.9
only Other combinations of two or more elderly	~ 4.1	5.1	2.3	1.4	. 5.1	5.5	4.2	3.6	3.4	4.7	1.3	0.6
persons with others	5.1	4.7	4.2	15.3	4.5	4.2	4.2	14.5	5.5	5.0	4.3	15.6
l'otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 4.6.2 Sex and age of elderly persons (by type of household)

	Total	Type of house	hold			
		One elderly person only	Elderly married couple only (1)	Elderly siblings only(1)	Others (one elderly person)	Others (more than one elderly person)
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622)	(1,144) (809)	(1,705) (1,099)	(108) (82)	(556) (379)	(356) (253)
Age	%	%	%	%	%	%
Men: 65-74	28.5	13.1	41.3	8.3	23.4	30.1
75-84	9.9	6.6	13.5	3.7	7.6	9.0
85 and over	1.4	1.3	1.0	2.8	1.8	2.8
Total men	39.8	21.1	55.8	14.8	32.7	41.9
Women: 65-74	38.0	43.2	35.0	46.3	33.5	40.2
75-84	18.2	29.0	8.7	36.1	26.3	11.0
85 and over	4.0	6.7	0.4	2.8	7.6	7.0
Total women	60.2	78.9	44.2	85.2	67.3	58.1
Fotal: 65-74	66.4	56.3	76,4	54.6	56.8	70.2
75-84	28.1	35.7	22.2	39.8	33.8	19.9
85 and over	5.4	8.0	1.4	5.6	9.4	9.8
Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0

⁽¹⁾ One or both elderly

Not unexpectedly the percentage of elderly men with non-elderly wives exceeds the percentage of elderly women with non-elderly husbands.

With increasing age there is an increase in the percentages living alone and living with younger people.

There are comparatively few cases of elderly siblings living together: these are mainly women.

95.8 per cent of households consist solely of adults aged 16 and over, with no children under that age.

In table 4.6.2 we look at the figures in the opposite way (some types of household have been grouped to provide adequate numbers for analysis).

The difference in the percentages of men and women in elderly couples is accounted for by the fact that the number of elderly men who have non-elderly wives is greater than vice versa.

In the light of the present mortality trends, the number of elderly people (particularly women) who are likely to be left on their own because of the death of their spouses within the next few years exceeds the number of older elderly people living alone at present.

4.7 Regional distribution

We have used two main forms of regional analysis. The first is based on standard region and the second on population density.

4.8 Workers in households

The employment history of elderly workers is examined in detail in a later chapter. To complete the picture of the

Table 4.7.1 Regional and population density distribution of samples of households and of elderly persons

	Households	Persons
Total sample WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(3,869)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(2,622)
	%	%
(a) Standard region		
North	6.4	6.4
Yorkshire & Humberside	9.7	9.8
Northwest	14.1	14.6
E Midlands & E Anglia	13.7	13.5
W Midlands	10.1	10.0
Greater London	12.7	12.2
Southeast & Southwest	21.6	21.7
'Retirement areas'(1)	11.6	11.8
Total	100.0	100.0
(b) Population density		
Greater London	12.7	12.2
Metropolitan counties	25.0	25.2
Non-metropolitan counties:		
high density(2)	12.7	12.8
medium(2)	14.3	14.2
low(2)	35.3	35:6
Total	100.0	100.0

(1) See Appendix B for definition.

(2) high density: 4 or more electors per acre.

medium density: 1 but less than 4 electors per acre. low density: less than 1 elector per acre.

sample we show here the percentages of households which contain (a) elderly workers; (b) non-elderly workers.

The percentage containing younger workers does not vary very greatly between regions, probably because household composition does not vary greatly. The much greater variation in the percentage containing elderly workers may reflect the extent to which opportunities for older workers exist in different parts of England.

Table 4.8.1 Percentages of households in each region and population density which contain (a) elderly workers; (b) non-elderly workers

	All households WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures	Households	containing:
	WEIGHTED	nguics	Elderly workers	Non-elderly workers
Standard region			%	%
North	(187)	(124)	11.2	24.6
Yorks & Humberside	(283)	(200)	8.5	19.7
North West	(413)	(284)	8.2	23.0
E. Midlands & E. Anglia	(399)	(270)	16.6	24.3
W. Midlands	(296)	(196)	4.8	22.3
Greater London	(371)	(246)	17.0	25.0
Southeast & Southwest	(631)	(430)	14.8	26.9
'Retirement' areas	(340)	(225)	11.8	22.4
All regions	(2,920)	(1,975)	12.2	24.0
Population density				
Greater London	(371)	(246)	17.0	25.1
Metropolitan counties	(729)	(499)	8.3	22.6
Non metropolitan:	` ′	,		
High density	(370)	(252)	9.4	25.1
Medium density	(418)	(277)	15.3	25.8
Low density	(1,032)	(701)	12.9	23.3

5 Younger adults in household

5.1 Introduction

A few questions were asked about non-elderly adults in the households containing elderly persons. The situation of the younger adults vis a vis the elderly differs according to the type of household and before dealing with the answers to these questions it is desirable to summarise the situations which may exist (adults are defined as aged 16 and over).

(a) In households with an elderly head

- Elderly persons living alone. There can be no younger persons in these households (adults or children).
- (ii) Elderly married couples only. A married couple is regarded as an entity for many purposes and therefore we have defined an elderly married couple as one where both spouses or only one are elderly. Consequently a small number of households thus defined will contain one younger person, who is the younger spouse. There can be no children.
- (iii) Elderly siblings only. None of these contain younger persons (adults or children).
- (iv) Other types of household with one elderly person. These must contain younger persons. The one elderly person is head of household.
- (v) Other types of household with more than one elderly person. These may or may not contain younger persons. They may consist of an elderly married couple with others. One of the elderly persons is head of household. They may contain children.

(b) In households with a younger head

These all come into types (iv) and (v) above, with the difference that the head is not one of the elderly

persons. Obviously these households must all contain at least one younger person.

The three households in which the only elderly person is a boarder are excluded here because it would have been undesirable to question the boarder about other members of the household.

4.2 per cent of all households contain children under

5.2 Younger adults and younger workers in households

The term 'work' here means paid employment, including self-employment.

We first compare the situation in households with elderly and younger heads.

It is not surprising that the great majority of households with younger heads contain workers because none of the younger men heads and few of the younger women heads will have reached the retirement age for their sex. Additionally many wives of younger men heads will be working.

In the following summary we show, for households with elderly heads, the percentages in different groups which contain younger working adults and younger nonworking adults (percentages read across).

Households with more than one younger worker are found in comparatively few of these groups. In the case of households whose head is the non-elderly husband of an elderly wife, all the households contain at least one younger working member and in 11.1 per cent of households at least two of the younger members are

Table 5.2.1 Younger adults and younger workers in households (by type of head)

	Total	Households with	:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,917)	(2,705)	(212)
(unweighted figures)	(1,972)	(1,811)	(162)
	%	%	%
Households containing:			70
younger working adult(s)(1)	23.9	18.8	88.7(2)
younger non-working adults only	9.3	9.2	11.3
no younger adults	66.8	72.1	_
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ They may also include non-working adults

^{(2) 31.6} per cent contain two workers, 9.4 per cent contain three or more

Table 5.2.2 Younger workers and adults in households with elderly heads (by sex, age, marital and employment status of head; type of household)

	Households with elderly	Unweighted	Households	containing:	
	heads WEIGHTED	figures	Younger adu	ilts:	No younger
	"EIGHTED		Working	Not working only	adults
Fotal Sex (head)	(2,705)	(1,811)%	18.8	9.2	72.1 = 100
Man Woman	(1,509) (1,196)	(956)% (855)%	21.2 15.7	14.2 2.8	64.5 81.5
Age (head)					
4 and under(1) (2) 5-74	(54)	(29)%	100.0		
5-14 5-84	(1,718)	(865)%	19.1	12.7	68.2
5 and over	(789) (144)	(776)% (141)%	13.0 16.0	3.3 2.1	83.7 81.9
o and over	(144)	(141)%	10.0	2.1	81.9
Agrital status (head)					
farried	(1,190)	(741)%	22.6	17.0	60.4
Vidowed	(1,239)	(893)%	17.5	2.3	80.1
ingle	(216)	(144)%	5.6	6.9	87.5
ivorced(2)	(60)	(33)%	16.7	3.3	80.0
ype of household					
Iderly person alone Iderly married couple	(1,144)	(809)%			100.0
iderly married couple iderly siblings(2)	(996) (54)	(626)%	11.0	17.8	71.2
thers—one elderly	(360)	(41)% (228)%	85.8	14.2	100.0
Others—more than one elderly	(151)	(107)%	59.0	13.2	27.8
	(151)	(201)/0	55.0	13.2	27.0
imployment (head)					
Vorking	(357)	(196)%	39.5	16.5	44.0
lot working	(2,348)	(1,615)%	15.7	8.0	76.3

(1) Non-elderly husbands of elderly wives

(2) Percentages should be treated with reserve because of small numbers

working. In households where one elderly person (the head) is living with younger people 19.5 per cent of households contain two or more younger workers. The comparatively small group of others with more than one elderly person is not homogeneous, since it contains all-elderly households as well as those with younger people.

This group contains 13.2 per cent of households with more than one younger worker.

It will be remembered that the group described as 'elderly married couple only' includes instances where one or both are elderly. No households in this group, by definition, can include more than one younger worker. It can be calculated that, of the 11 per cent of younger workers, at least half are wives.

This information is useful in two ways. First, it gives a rough indication of the economic circumstances of households. We shall show later that many younger workers contribute to the upkeep of the household. Secondly, it shows to what extent elderly people can expect help with domestic and personal tasks from within the household and how far that help may be limited because younger people are working. As a corollary, it gives some idea of the possibility of physical and financial strain on younger people who have to cope with a job as well as look after the elderly.

5.3 Other responsibilities of younger adults

We explored the question of younger adults' responsibilities a little further by asking whether any of them

have any responsibilities for other elderly or infirm individuals outside the household. We have shown that one-third of all households contain younger adults. In 1.1 per cent younger adults have some responsibility for persons outside. In view of the small number with outside responsibilities we did not go into further details, but the findings of an earlier survey(1) provide some relevant information. They showed that five per cent of all women aged 16-64 were responsible for the care, to a greater or lesser extent, of at least one elderly or infirm person in their households, that 6.3 per cent were responsible for at least one person outside the household but that less than one per cent were responsible for persons both inside and outside the household. In the present survey we did not ask the younger people specifically whether they were responsible for caring for the elderly persons in the household, but it is obvious from the answers given by the elderly persons that they depend on the younger people in many cases for help with personal and domestic tasks. It is also obvious that, particularly in the case of the younger elderly, many do not need help and are in fact helping the younger people by keeping house.

In 1.2 per cent of households younger adults do voluntary work with organisations which help elderly or infirm persons.

(1) A survey of women's employment HMSO 1968. This survey showed that over 80 per cent of the individuals for whom were were responsible were aged 65 and over (more than half unergood 75 and over). Over half the women had to do virtually all household tasks for the elderly person. This shows one aspect of the other side of the problem of carrie for the elderly.

5.4 Contributions towards expenditure made by younger working adults

Twenty seven per cent of households with an elderly head contain younger working adults (this excludes instances where the only younger worker is the non-elderly husband of an elderly wife, he being the titular head). It would be expected that in many instances younger workers would contribute to the household expenses. We therefore asked whether regular contributions are made, and, if so, how much. The following summarises the total contributions from all younger workers.

The object of the question was to obtain some idea of the financial assistance elderly heads might expect, not of the individual contributions of younger workers. It proved to be a difficult question to which to obtain accurate answers and it seems likely that some of the nil answers may in reality represent situations where contributions are made but on a non-regular basis or where

Table 5.4.1 Contributions made by younger workers

Dominion and the second	%	Ī
Regular weekly contribution Nil	26.7	
Less than £4	5.9	
£4, less than £6	11.7	
£6, less than £8	11.1	
£8, less than £10	8.5	
£10, less than £12	14.1	
£12, less than £16	8.3	
£16 or more	4.6	
Not stated	9.1	
Total	100.0	

specific items are paid for by the younger person. It is also possible that some younger workers, in addition to their regular contributions, pay for specific items (running of a car in which the elderly are taken out is a likely example).

6 Socio-economic group; income and regular outgoings of elderly persons

6.1 Introduction

The assessment of socio-economic group (SEG) for the elderly population is not so straightforward as for the population of working age. We have shown in the chapter dealing with employment that working elderly people are not always doing the same job as they had done for most of their working lives and that many nonworkers had changed jobs at retirement age or thereabouts.

We have the additional problem that the common practice of classifying married women according to their husbands' occupations cannot really be justified in the case of women who have been widowed for many years. (The practice itself is undoubtedly in need of some modification in the light of the increasing proportion of married women at work). We did not, in fact ask widows about their late husband's occupations so no information is available on which to base such a classification.

In this section, therefore, we have confined information about socio-economic group to those elderly people for whom it seems relevant, namely: Men

Single women

Married women and widows who have worked beyond the age of 55.

Probably other factors give a better indication of the economic circumstances of elderly people, notably income and sources of income, house ownership, car ownership. Whether elderly married couples and elderly individuals are living alone or with younger people also has a bearing on their socio-economic group.

6.2 Socio-economic group for most of working life

(a) Those still working (men and women)

We have shown that 51.9 per cent of men working at present and 28.7 per cent of women had changed their job at the retirement age for the previous job.

We show in table 6.2.1 the socio-economic groups of jobs done for most of their working lives for all men workers and all women workers, compared with those done at present. (Those who have not changed jobs are included in both sets of figures).

Table 6.2.1 Socio-economic group of job for most of working life and of present job for those still working (men and women separately)

	Men		Women	
	Job for most of working lives	Present job	Job for most of working lives	Present job
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(243)	(129)	(129)
(unweighted figures)	(132)	(132)	(74)	(74)
	%	%	%	%
Socio-economic group				
Employers, managers	13.2	11.1	11.6	5.4
Professional workers	3.7	5.3	_	_
Intermediate non-manual	5.8	4.1	11.6	12.4
Junior non-manual	6.2	18.1	12.4	15.5
Personal service workers	0.4	0.4	23.3	24.0
Foremen (manual)	5.3	2.5	-	_
Skilled manual	33.3	13,6	3.1	3.9
Semi-skilled manual	13.6	15.6	7.8	4.7
Unskilled manual	6.6	18.5	20.9	25.6
Own account (non-professional)	3.3	2.1	6.2	6.2
Farmers (owners and managers)	4.5	4.9	1.6	1.6
Agricultural workers	2.9	3.7	_	_
Armed Forces	_	_	0.8	_
Inadequately described	1.2	_	0.8	0.8
Total	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0

Table 6.2.2 Socio-economic group of job done for most of working life (men, single women, married, widowed etc women shown separately)

	Men	Single women	Women who later	worked till 55 or
			Married	Widowed, divorced etc.
Non-workers WEIGHTED	(1,297)	(240)	(373)	(557)
(unweighted figures)	(852)	(160)	(239)	(387)
	%	%	%	%
Socio-economic group				
Employers and managers	11.8	11.1	5.3	6.3
Professional workers	3.5	2.3		_
Intermediate non-manual	3.9	15.2	6.2	6.5
Junior non-manual	7.5	19.4	18.0	19.2
Personal services	0.9	11.1	15.3	20.1
Foremen-manual	6.9	0.9	_	1.3
Skilled manual	33.2	5.5	12.3	9.2
Semi-skilled manual	15.6	12.0	23.9	16.2
Unskilled manual	5.4	2.3	15.3	12.9
Own account (non-professional)	2.6	2.3	1.3	3.8
Farmers (owners & managers)	1.7	0.9	_	1.2
Agricultural workers	2.8	5.1	1.6	1.6
Armed forces	2.2	0.9	-	-
Inadequately described, not stated	2.0	0.5	0.0	
stated	2.0	0.5	0.8	1.9
Never worked	_	10.6	-	-
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 6.2.3 Socio-economic group of job done for most of working life (non-working men by age and mobility)

	Age			Mobility	
	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Bedfast, housebound	Goes out
Men non-workers WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(872) (447) %	(366) (354) %	(54) (51) %	(53) (44) %	(1,244) (808)
SEG of job for most of working life Employers, managers Professional workers Intermediate non-manual Junior non-manual	10.8 3.8 3.8 6.4	13.4 3.3 4.6 9.3	18.5 1.9 — 13.0	1.9 	12.2 3.7 3.9 7.3
Personal service workers	1.3	-	_	_	0.9
Foremen (manual)	7.0	6.3	9.3	11.3	6.7
Skilled manual Semi-skilled manual Unskilled manual	34.2 17.7 5.4	31.7 12.0 6.3	27.8 7.4 —	50.9 11.3 1.9	32.3 15.8 5.5
Own account (non-professional)	2.5	2.2	5.5	-	2.7
Farmers (owners & managers) Agricultural workers	1.0 2.4	3.0 2.7	1.9 9.3	1.9 1.9	1.6 2.8
Armed forces	1.8	3.3	1.9	_	2.3
Inadequately described	1.8	1.9	3.7	3.8	2.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

It appears that, in the case of elderly workers, particularly men, a classification on the basis of the job they are now doing would not be entirely accurate. It is not justifiable to assume that the influence of one or other job is paramount. So much depends on circumstances which could not be investigated in the course of a survey such as the present one. For example, a man who has spent most of his working life as a skilled

manual worker but has suffered long periods of unemployment may be less well off in many ways than a semi-skilled worker in steady employment.

What can be concluded is that some workers are prepared to take jobs of a lower SEG than they have previously enjoyed in order to continue working.

(b) Those who have given up working

(men; single women; married, widowed and divorced women who have worked till age 55 or later).

Non-workers were asked what job they were doing at the time they finally gave up work and whether that job was the one they had been doing for most of their working lives. We have shown that, for 31.1 per cent of men and 33.2 per cent of women it was not.

The economic status of married women who are elderly today probably did depend more on their husbands' occupation than their own and the lower SEG of the jobs they used to do may not be reflected in their present circumstances. However, the jobs of women without husbands for all or part of their lives are also on average of a much lower SEG than those of men. Additionally, at the time when these women were working, most of them did not receive equal pay even when doing the same job as men. Women on their own, it is apparent, have for the most part had less opportunity to provide for their old age.

The differences between age-groups to some extent reflect the changes in the composition of the male labour force during the present century: for example, the comparatively high percentage of former agricultural workers among those aged 85 and over. They may also reflect the greater longevity of men in less physically demanding occupations. The much higher percentage of manual workers and the much lower percentage of manual workers and the much lower percentage of managerial workers among the bedfast and housebound is noteworthy. This means that in addition to their physical disabilities housebound and bedfast men (and frequently their wives) are likely to be, on average, worse off in economic terms than those who are able to go out. The socio-economic

groups of non-working men able to go out correspond quite closely with those done for most of their working lives by men who are working at present (who, of course, are all able to go out).

The numbers of women are too few for detailed analysis, but it is worth pointing out that there are no former managerial workers among the bedfast and housebound. This parallels the finding in the case of men.

(c) Widows and divorced women who did not work beyond age 55

As already stated, the socio-economic group of a late husband's job or that of a job done many years ago by the woman herself do not appear very relevant for this group. Therefore, for about 15 per cent of elderly persons a classification based on occupation is not feasible. In the following paragraphs we shall deal with income and sources of income, which will cover all elderly persons.

6.3 Total income from all sources

For practical purposes the incomes of the two members of a married couple are treated as a single income. Indeed, in the case of the State retirement pension based only on the husband's contributions it is a single income. We have therefore analysed separately the incomes of married couples and of non-married (ie, single, widowed, divorced and separated) persons. In a very few cases persons who are married in the legal sense are not living with their spouses and these persons have been treated as non-married for the income and outgoings analyses.

Elderly married couples are defined as those where one or both are elderly. In 68.2 per cent of cases both husband and wife are elderly, in 27.3 per cent the husband only is elderly and in 4.5 per cent the wife only. In 5.7 per cent of couples both are working, in 15.4 per cent the husband only and in 5.5 per cent the wife only.

The following shows the total net* annual income from all sources of these groups of married couples (includ-

Table 6.3.1 Total net income of married countes (by type of counte and employment status)

	Type of co	uple			Employment					
	Total	Both elderly	Husband elderly ⁽¹⁾	Wife elderly(1)	Both work(1)	Husband works	Wife works ⁽¹⁾	Neither work		
Married couples WEIGHTED	(1,203)	(820)	(329)	(54)	(68)	(185)	(66)	(884)		
(unweighted figures)	(749)	(542)	(178)	(29)	(35)	(100)	(37)	(577)		
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Total net annual income from										
all sources										
£750—£999	2.5	2.1	3.3	3.7	_	2.2	_	2.9		
£1,000-£1,499	46.3	54.3	32.3	11.1	11.8	20.0	21.2	56.3		
£1,500-£1,999	26.3	24.8	29.8	27.8	35.3	37.3	39.4	22.3		
£2,000-£2,999	13.5	9.0	19.4	44.4	41.2	20.5	18.2	9.5		
£3,000 and over	8.2	6.2	12.5	13.0	11.8	18.9	13.6	5.3		
Not stated(2)	3.2	3.6	2.7	_	_	1.1	7.6	3.6		
							-			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

⁽¹⁾ Percentages in these columns should be treated with caution.

⁽²⁾ Includes proxies (not all proxies were unable to say)

^{*} Net income means income after deductions for income tax and national insurance (where applicable).

Table 6.3.2 Total net income of non-married persons (men and women separately, by employment status)

	Non-marrie	d women		Non-marri	ed men	
	Total	Working	NOT working	Total	Working	NOT working
Non-married persons WEIGHTED	(1,455)	(83)	(1,372)	(391)	(10)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,057)	(49)	(1,008)	(174)	(42)	(349)
	%	%	(1,006)	(174)	(25)	(249)
Total net annual income from all source		70	70	%	%	% .
£499 or less	0.6	2,4	0.5	0.2		
£500-£749	27.8	3.6	29.3	0.3	-	0.3
£750-£999	42.7	24.1		17.4		19.5
£1,000-£1,499	18.8	38.6	43.9	39.6	14.3	42.7
£1,500 £1,499	3,6		17.6	23.5	26.2	23.2
£2,000 – £2,999		14.5	3.0	8.4	31.0	5.7
£3,000 and over	2.3	13.3	1.6	3.3	4.8	3.2
25,000 and over	0.9	3.6	0.7	4.3	19.0	2.6
Not stated	3.1	_	3.3	3.1	4.8	2.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0			
10107	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0

Table 6.3.3 Total net income of married couples (by age of husband and wife)

	Husband's	s age			Wife's age			
	Total	64 & under	65-74	75 & over	59 & under	60-64	65-74	75 & over
Married couples WEIGHTED (unweighted figures) Total net annual income from all sources	(1,203) (749) %	(54) (29) %	(871) (447) %	(278) (273)	(113) (62) %	(216) (116) %	(703) (406) %	(171) (165) %
an sources £750 - £999 £1,000 - £1,499 £1,500 - £1,999 £2,000 - £2,999 £3,000 and over	2.5 46.3 26.3 13.5 8.2	3.7 11.1 27.8 44.4 13.0	1.8 45.6 27.9 12.3 9.2	4.3 55.4 20.9 11.2 4.3	29.2 26.6 24.8 15.0	5.1 33.8 31.5 16.7 11.1	1.8 49.9 25.6 11.9 7.3	3.5 58.5 22.2 8.2 4.1
Not stated	3.2	-	3.2	4.0	4.4	1.9	3.4	3.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

ing, where appropriate, the income of a non-elderly spouse).

5.7 per cent of non-married elderly women and 10.7 per cent of non-married elderly men are working. Although the numbers are small the income differences are pronounced enough to be worth showing the groups separately.

The average weekly earnings at April 1976 for full-time adult men were £69 and for full-time adult women £40.0 The survey figures include part-time workers and income from all sources, after off-takes, was recorded. All the women workers are aged 65 or over and would therefore be entitled to draw their full State pension in addition to their earnings. One third of the men workers are aged 70 and over and the same thing would apply. Taking all these factors into account does not alter the conclusion that, even where there is a worker present, the financial level of most elderly people is well below the average of the working population.

The small group where the wife is elderly but the husband not is of interest, because the husband cannot be receiving the State retirement pension and the wife only if she is eligible in respect of her own contributions (the 3.7% of this group whose income is below £1,000 a year are those where neither husband nor wife are working). This group is manifestly better off on average than any except the group (also small in number) where both husband and wife are working. The worst off financially among married couples are those where both are elderly and those where neither are working.

The lower income levels of non-working, non-married persons compared with married couples are of course due to the lower State retirement pension rates for single people. It is interesting that the income levels of non-working men and women are more nearly alike than those of workers, which follows from the identical basic pension rates for both sexes. However, the percentage with incomes of less than £750 is appreciably higher among women than among men, possibly as a result of higher graduated pensions among the latter.

There is evidence among the survey findings that the younger elderly are better off in terms of material possessions than the older. This is also true in terms of

Source: DE Gazette April 1977 (approximate annual incomes £3,600 and £2,000 respectively). These are earnings before offtakes but do not take into account such additions as family allowances or family income supplement.

income, as the following tables show. Elderly married couples have been analysed by both age of husband and age of wife (there are only 20 married men and nine married women aged 85 and over, so these are combined with the 75–84 age group). The two analyses have been done because of the rules governing eligibility for pensions for men and their wives, but the effect of these rules is somewhat obfuscated by the higher percentage of workers in the younger age-groups.

The marked overall decline in income levels with age (both of husband and wife) is very apparent. This is partly but not wholly accounted for by the higher percentage of workers in the youngest age group.

The numbers in the age groups for men are much smaller than for women and the margin of error correspondingly greater, so that conclusions about the age-trend among men are less firmly based than in the case of women. On the basis of the figures as they stand, it appears that decrease in income levels with age is less marked in the case of men than women and that among women the fall between those aged 65–74 and those aged 75–84 and those aged 85 and over.

When elderly married couples live on their own and when elderly non-married individuals live alone it is reasonable to assume that their incomes have to serve for their entire upkeep. When they live with others there may be within-family financial arrangements which make a difference to the situation (we have shown that two-thirds of younger working adults in households with an elderly head make some financial contribution).

We therefore compare, first, the incomes of elderly married couples who live on their own (82.8 per cent of the total) with those of couples who live with others and, secondly, the incomes of non-married individuals who live in different types of households. (It is perhaps unexpected that the proportion of men-roughly one-

fifth—is almost identical among individuals living alone and individuals living with others).

The income level of married couples living alone is a little lower on average than that of couples living with others, while for elderly individuals the reverse is true.

Perhaps the most important finding, however, is that, at the time of the survey, half the elderly married couples living on their own had net incomes of less than £1,500. Over two-thirds of elderly persons living alone had incomes of less than £1,000 a year.

One factor which affects income levels in different regions is the cost of housing, which, in the case of heads of households is generally reflected in the amount of supplementary benefit payable, whereas it rarely has this effect in the case of non-heads. In 99 per cent of married couples the husband is the head of household, so the differences between heads and non-heads is negligible. Only 82 per cent of non-married persons are heads of household, so the differences are more marked. We therefore give figures for all married couples, for all non-married persons and for non-married heads.

Regions with a relatively high percentage of married couples with low incomes tend to have low percentages of couples with high incomes. It can be said that income levels are above average in Greater London and in the Southeast and Southwest, and below average in the Northwest and the West Midlands.

Non-married heads of household are less likely to have very low incomes than are all non-married persons, irrespective of region, probably a consequence of higher supplementary benefits being paid to heads of households. The percentage with higher incomes is not consistently lower among all persons, probably because neither non-heads nor heads of households in the higher incomes group are likely to receive supplementary benefit. Taking both high and low incomes into account.

Table 6.3.4 Total net income of non-married persons (men and women separately by age)

	Grand	Men: age				Women:			
	total	Total men	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total women	65–74	75-84	85 & over
Non-married persons									
WEIGHTED	(1,846)	(391)	(230)	(126)	(35)	(1,455)	(767)	(543)	(145)
(unweighted figures)	(1,331)	(274)	(118)	(122)	(34)	(1,057)	(383)	(532)	(142)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total net annual income from									
all sources									
£499 or less	0.5	0.3	_	0.8		0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7
£500-£749	25.6	17.4	18.7	14.3	20.0	27.8	24.2	31.1	34.5
£750-£999	42.1	39.6	39.6	38.1	45.7	42.7	42.0	44.5	40.7
£1,000-£1,499	19.8	23.5	22.6	27.0	17.1	18.8	21.0	16.8	15.2
£1,500-£1,999	4.7	8.4	8.3	8.7	8.6	3.6	4.3	2.8	3.4
£2,000-£2,999	2.5	3.3	3.0	4.0	2.9	2.3	3.7	0.9	_
£3,000 and over	1.6	4.3	4.3	5.6	-	0.9	1.4	0.4	-
Not stated	3.1	3.1	3.5	1.6	5.7	3.1	2.9	3.0	5.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 6.3.5 Total net income of married couples and of non-married persons (by type of household)

	Married couple	s	Non-married p	persons		
	Living on own	Living with others	Living alone	Elderly siblings	Others—one elderly	Others-more than one elderly
Elderly couples/persons WEIGHTED	(996)	(207)	(1,144)	(108)	(468)	(126)
(unweighted figures)	(626)	(123)	(809)	(82)	(333)	(107)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total net annual income from all source	s			,,,	70	70
£499 or less		_	0.3	2.8	0.9	
£500-£749	_	_	18.6	37.0	39.1	
750-£999	2.0	4.8	48.6	35.2		29.4
1,000-£1,499	48.3	36.7	21.2		32.3	25.4
1.500-£1.999	25.5	30.0		15.7	17.5	19.8
2,000-£2,999	13.1	15.5	3.7	4.6	5.1	11.9
3,000 and over	7.9		2.1	3.7	2.4	5.6
D,000 and over	7.9	9.7	1.8	_	1.7	0.8
Not stated	3.2	3.4	3.8	0.9	1.1	7.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0

Table 6.3.6 Total income from all sources (by region)

	Region							
	North	Yorks & Humberside	North-West	E. Mids & E. Anglia	West Midlands	Gr. London	S.E & S.W	Ret. areas
All married couples								
WEIGHTED	(85)	(125)	(175)	(161)	(116)	(131)	(27.4)	(120)
(unweighted figures)	(51)	(82)	(110)	(100)	(72)	(80)	(274) (169)	(136)
	%	%	%	%	%	(au) %		(85)
Total income			,0	70	70	70	%	%
£750-£999	2.4	2.4	4.0	3.1	4.3	2.3		
£1,000-£1,499	43.5	56.8	48.0	40.4	59.5		1.8	-
£1,500-£1,999	31.8	25.6	25.1	31.7		42.7	39.4	49.3
£2,000-£2,999	16.5	8.8	14.3	10.6	20.7	18.3	29.9	23.5
3,000 and over	5.9	4.0	6.3		9.5	19.8	13.5	15.4
Djood and Over	3.9	4.0	6.3	11.2	4.3	12.2	11.7	5.1
Not stated	-	2.4	2.3	3.1	1.7	4.6	3.6	6.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Non-married persons								
WEIGHTED	(106)	(165)	(0.44)					
unweighted figures)		(165)	(261)	(251)	(188)	(258)	(394)	(223)
unweighted figures)	(76) %	(126)	(192)	(181)	(132)	(181)	(285)	(158)
Total income	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
749 or less	20.7							
750~£999	22.6	24.8	22.6	23.9	29.8	23.6	28.7	30.9
	48.1	50.9	48.7	47.4	48.9	38.4	34.5	30.9
1,000-£1,499	20.8	15.8	16.9	19.1	14.9	24.8	22.6	20.2
1,500 and over	8.5	7.3	7.3	5.6	4.8	9.7	11.2	13.5
lot stated	_	1.2	4.6	4.0	1.6	3.5	3.0	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
on-married HOH								
WEIGHTED	(87)	(114)						
unweighted figures)			(209)	(218)	(160)		(305)	(178)
unweighted rigures)	(61) %		(150)	(154)	(110)		(215)	(123)
otal income	70	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
749 or less	21.8	21.5	10.7	20.2				
750-£999	50.6	21.5 53.5	18.7	20.2	25.6	17.8	21.0	21.3
1,000-£1,499	21.8		53.1	50.0	50.0	42.5	40.3	33.7
1,500 and over		16.7	15.3	19.3	17.5	26.5	25.2	23.6
1,500 and over	5.7	6.9	7.2	6.4	5.6	9.6	10.5	15.7
ot stated	_	1.4	5.7	4.1	1.3	3.7	3.0	5.6
otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

levels among non-married heads appear to be below average in the West Midlands region and above average in Greater London.

We have compared the incomes of married couples where one or other is bedfast or housebound with those where both are able to go out. 62.3 per cent of the former, compared with 48 per cent of the latter, have incomes of less than £1,500 ay ear. A similar comparison in the case of non-married persons shows that, while the bedfast and housebound appear to be a little worse off, the main difference is that between those with incomes of £1,500 or more (3.7 per cent of bedfast and housebound, 9.1 per cent of others).

6.4 Sources of income

Informants were shown a card containing a list of sources of income, as in the table below, and were asked to state which sources they had (and their spouses, where appropriate, including non-elderly spouses).

The table for married couples shows their combined sources of income: ie if both have a source (such as wages or salary) it is counted once only.

The differences between the three types of elderly couples are mainly a consequence of the age at which retirement pensions are payable. Where the husband is not elderly he is not eligible for a State pension, although his wife may be entitled to one in her own right. One-third of elderly wives of non-elderly husbands are drawing such a pension. Too much reliance should not be

placed on individual percentages in this group, but it can be said that most of the husbands are working and some are drawing sickness or unemployment benefit (shown under 'other State payments'). Very few are drawing supplementary benefits.

As might be expected, all those who receive a State retirement pension only or supplementary benefit only have a total income of less than £1,500. Only a small proportion who receive both have a slightly higher income. There are marked increases with increasing income in the percentages who have incomes from employment, pensions from former employers and annuities, interest, etc. It can be seen that 17.2 per cent of couples where both are elderly are entirely dependent on the State retirement pension and/or supplementary henefit.

Under the heading annuity etc are included all kinds of income, however small, derived from savings, shares, property etc. Some of these amounts are obviously very small, because even in addition to the State retirement pension for a married couple they often do not suffice to raise the total income to £1,500. Some such incomes may well be the equivalent of part or all of a former employer's pension, because many schemes provide for a lump sum payment on retirement, either alone or in addition to an income.

Nearly two-fifths of non-married elderly people are dependent solely on State retirement pensions and/or supplementary benefit, a much higher percentage than in the case of elderly couples. Nearly one-third are

Table 6.4.1 Combined sources of income of married couples (by type of couple and total income

	Type of c	ouple			Married	couples'			
	Total	Both elderly	Husband	Wife elderly	Total income from all sources(1)				
		elderly	,	eldell,	£1,499 or less	£1,500- 1,999	£2,000- 2,999	£3,000 or more	
Married couples WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,203) (749)	(820) (542)	(329) (178)	(54) (29)	(587) (382)	(316) (191)	(162) (97)	(99) (57)	
Combined sources	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Wages or salary from employment	23.4	12.2	42.6	81.5	8.3	36.4	45.7	37.4	
ncome from business etc. (self-employed)	3.2	2.3	4.0	13.0	1.7	2.2	2.5	18.2	
ension from former employer	53.0	55.9	53.5	13.0	46.5	60.4	55.6	67.7	
any State widow's pension	_	-	_	_	-	_	_	_	
I Retirement pension or Old Person's									
pension	91.2	95.5	89.7	35.2	98.0	94.3	77.2	74.7	
upplementary benefit	12.2	13.3	10.9	3.7	21.5	6.3	0.6	_	
Attendance allowance	0.8	1.0	0.6	_	0.5	1.6	0.6	1.0	
Other State payments	6.7	5.2	7.9	20.4	4.1	8.5	16.0	1.0	
Other regular allowances	1.8	1.7	2.4	_	1.7	0.9	4.9	1.0	
Annuity, income from shares, property etc	45.6	46.1	46.8	29.6	34.6	46.8	60.5	91.9	
Not stated	1.1	1.6	-	-	0.2	_	_	_	
Summary									
I pension only	6.5	8.3	3.0	_	12.9	_	_	-	
B only	0.1	0.1	_	_	0.2	_	-	_	
I pension & SB only	7.7	8.8	6.4	_	14.8	1.9	_	-	
Other combinations	84.6	81.2	90.6	100.0	71.9	98.1	100.0	100.0	
Not stated	1.1	1.6	_	_	0.2	_	_	_	

⁽¹⁾ Those not stating income are not shown. They appear in the total and type of couple.

dependent solely on these sources and receive less than £1,000 a year. As with married couples there is a marked increase with increasing income in the percentages who have incomes from employment, pensions from former employers and private incomes.

There are some differences between the sources of income of non-married men and women. The percentage of men who receive a state retirement pension is a little higher than that of women (95.7 per cent, compared with 87.7 per cent) but this is compensated for by the 9.7 per cent of women who receive a State widow's pension. The most marked differences however are in the percentages who receive a pension from a former employer or spouse's employer (45.5 per cent of men, 20.3 per cent of women) and in those receiving supplementary benefit (20.5 per cent of men, 34.3 per cent of

women). The percentage of women who receive a former employer's pension includes some who receive a pension in respect of their late husbands, while it is unlikely that many men receive pensions in respect of their late wives. It is therefore legitimate to conclude that our figures under-estimate the difference between the percentages of men and women who have occupational pensions in respect of their own previous employment. Further light is shed on this by comparing the sources of income of each member of married couples. The table below does not show joint sources (eg state retirement pension for married couple).

Many wives will not have worked long enough to qualify for a pension, but even taking this into account, the difference between the figures for husbands and wives is striking.

Table 6.4.2 Sources of income of non-married persons (by total income from all sources)

	Non-marrie	d persons'					
	Total incom	e from all sources					
	Total	£749 or less	£750-£999	£1,000-£1,499	£1,500 & over	Not stated	
Non-married persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,846) (1,331) %	(483) (359) %	(777) (562) %	(366) (263) %	(162) (106) %	(58) (41) %	
Sources of Income							
Vages or salary from employment ncome from business etc (self-	5.5	0.6	3.0	10.4	22.2	3.4	
employed)	1.0	0.4	0.1	1.4	6.8	_	
Pension from former employer	25.6	5.2	29.6	38.3	46.3	5.2	
Any State widow's pension	7.6	8.5	8.2	6.8	4.9	5.2	
Person's pension	89.4	88.6	91.1	90.7	88.3	67.2	
Supplementary benefit	31.4	14.3	50.1	30.1	0.6	31.9	
ttendance allowance	0.6	0.2	_	2.7	_	_	
Other State-payments	2.7	0.8	1.5	6.6	4.9	2.7	
Other regular allowances Annuity, income from shares,	3.0	2.1	2.4	5.7	1.9	3.0	
property etc	37.1	26.5	30.4	46.7	75.9	32.8	
Not stated	1.0	0.6	-	-	-	27.6	
Summary							
NI pension only	14.1	46.2	3.2	1.4	_	13.8	
B only	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	_	_	
NI pension & SB only	23.5	12.0	38.4	19.1	0.3	10.3	
Other combinations	61.0	40.6	58.0	79.2	99.4	48.3	
Not stated	1.0	0.6	_	_	_	27.6	

Table 6.4.3 Individual sources of income of husband and wife

	Husband	Wife
Married persons WEIGHTED	(1,203)	(1,203)
(unweighted figures)	(749)	(749)
	%	%
Individual sources of income		
Wages, salary, income from business etc	20.4	10.5
Pension from previous employer	51.0	5.6
State retirement pension	37.7	32.3
Supplementary benefit	3.3	0.2
Attendance allowance	0.5	0.3
Other State benefits	5.2	1.3
Other regular allowances	1.4	0.1
Annuities etc.	29.1	20.2
No individual sources	14.6	35.3

Table 6.4.4 (Combined) sources of income of married couples and of non-married persons, (by type of bousehold)

	Elderly ma	arried couples	Elderly non-married persons		
	Living on own	Living with others	Living alone	Living with others	
Elderly couples/persons WEIGHTED	(996)	(207)	(1,144)	(702)	
(unweighted figures)	(626)	(123)	(809)	(522)	
	%	%	%	%	
Combined) sources of income					
Wages, salary, from employment	23.2	25.6	5.3	5.8	
Income from business etc	1.9	8.7	1.0	1.0	
Pension from former employer	54.3	48.3	25.2	26.4	
Any State widow's pension	_	_	8.0	7.0	
State retirement pension	92.1	87.9	90.0	88.3	
Supplementary benefit	12.2	13.5	39.5	18.1	
Attendance allowance	0.9	0.5	_	1.6	
Other State payments	5.9	10.1	2.4	3.3	
Other regular allowances	2.0	4.6	3.4	2.3	
Annuity, interest from shares, property etc.	47.1	38.2	37.3	36.8	
Not stated	1.1	1.6	1.0	1.1	

The combined sources of income of married couples where one or both work and of the remainder, and those of working and non-working non-married individuals, differ in the manner which one would expect. Apart from a very few instances where the wife is doing a very small part-time job, none of the married couples with a worker and none of the working individuals receive supplementary benefit. It is interesting that 81 per cent of working non-married women receive State retirement pensions.

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Significant differences between combined sources of income of couples where one is bedfast or housebound and those of couples who are both able to go out are: income from employment (9.8 and 27.8 per cent respectively); attendance allowance (12.2 and 0.3 per cent respectively); other State payments (24.4 and 5.8 per cent respectively). The differences in the case of nonmarried persons do not follow quite the same pattern: the principal ones are: income from employment (nil for bedfast or housebound, seven per cent for others); previous employer's pension (9.5 and 26.6 per cent respectively); supplementary benefit (53.3 and 30 per cent respectively); annuity etc (19 and 38.2 per cent respectively). The different patterns are a consequence of several factors; the immobility of one partner does not always prevent the other from continuing in employment; the preponderance of women among non-married persons and their greater average age.

The main difference between elderly couples on their own and those living with others lies in the higher percentages of the latter who have incomes from employment or business. As a consequence the percentages with pensions and annuities of all kinds are lower (people in employment do not normally receive pensions).

In the case of elderly non-married persons, however, the percentages with incomes from employment and with pensions of all kinds are almost the same among those

living alone and those living with others and the only significant difference is between the percentages receiving supplementary benefit.

6.5 Assets

Elderly couples were asked whether they separately or jointly have any assets of the kinds shown below, and if so, how much they amount to in total. Elderly non-married persons were asked the same question in respect of themselves alone. The amounts were recorded in broad groups only (so as to avoid giving offence) and the question was omitted in the case of recipients of supplementary benefits (whose level of assets, if any, would be below the statutory level). The latter are shown separately in the table below, which shows the combined assets of married couples and the assets of individual non-married persons.

In addition to those receiving supplementary benefits, necurity one-fifth of elderly couples and nearly one-quarter of non-married elderly persons have less than £300 in assets. The great majority of those who have assets have them in forms which are most often favoured by small savers. The figures shown possibly slightly understate the percentages who have each form of assets because those on supplementary benefit are excluded and a few of these may have a small amount in one or other form.

Differences between people of different ages and between elderly on their own and others appear to be largely an artefact of the different percentages who receive supplementary benefits and therefore are not worth showing in detail.

The association of higher income with a higher level of assets is very apparent. The association is particularly marked in the case of assets which are a direct source of income (eg stocks and shares).

Table 6.5.1 Assets possessed by elderly married couples and by elderly non-married persons (couples by relative ages, non-married persons by sex)

	Married o	ouples			Non-marr	ied persons	
	Total	Both elderly	Husband elderly	Wife elderly	Total	Men	Women
Elderly couples/persons WEIGHTED unweighted figures)	(1,203) (749)	(820) (542)	(329) (178)	(54) (29)	(1,846) (1,331)	(391) (274) %	(1,455) (1,057)
lature of assets	,,,	70					
Bank, savings bank, co-op, savings certifi- cates, building society, premium bonds	70.5	70.1	75.2	81.5	50.0	57.8	47.9
tocks, shares etc	12.5	12.7	12.5	3.7	11.6	11.8	11.6
roperty other than dwelling lived in	4.1	5.0	4.0	_	3.6	3.3	3.6
Total amount							
Over £2,500	27.2	29.0	28.0	20.4	14.9	18.4	14.0
300-£2,500	29.3	28.8	28.9	46.3	25.3	31.5	23.6
ess than £300	8.0	6.0	10.3	11.1	9.9	8.4	10.2
No assets	10.9	11.9	8.8	9.3	13.7	16.9	12.8
Receiving SB	12.2	12.9	10.9	3.7	31.4	20.5	34.3
Not stated(1)	12.4	11.3	13.1	9.3	4.9	4.3	5.0
Fotal	100,0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ including proxies.

Table 6.5.2 Assets of married couples and of non-married persons (by total net income)

	Married co	ouples' total	net		Non-mar	ried persons	total net		
	Income fre	om all sourc	es(1)		Income from all sources(1)				
	£1,499 & under	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 & over	£749 & under	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 & over	
Elderly couples/persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures) Nature of assets	(587) (382) %	(316) (191) %	(162) (97) %	(99) (57) %	(483) (359) %	(777) (562) %	(366) (263) %	(162) (106) %	
Bank, savings bank, co-op, savings certifi- cates, building society, premium bonds	61.3	78.5	81.5	96.0	52.0	36,8	59.8	90.1	
Stocks, shares etc.	4.1	11.4	14.2	66.7	4.6	6.3	15.6	46.3	
Property other than dwelling lived in	2.0	5.7	3.7	12.1	2.5	1.4	6.3	11.7	
Fotal amount Over £2,500 £300−£2,500 Less than £300	16.4 33.2 8.9	26.0 33.6 10.1	43.8 25.3 6.2	75.8 8.1	6.2 27.3 18.6	7.7 22.9 7.3	20.2 31.4 8.2	64.8 23.5 1.9	
No assets	13.3	10.1	10.5	2.0	29.2	8.9	9.0	6.2	
Receiving SB	21.5	6.3	0.6	_	14.3	50.1	30.0	0.6	
lot stated	6.8	13.9	13.6	14.1	4.3	3.1	1.1	3.1	
Fotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state income are not shown.

At one end of the scale six per cent of all elderly married couples have annual incomes of £3,000 or more and assets worth over £2,500, while at the other end 21 per cent have incomes of less than £1,500, no assets or less than £300 or are on supplementary benefit. Among non-married people three per cent have incomes of £2,000 or more, together with assets exceeding £2,500, and 16 per

cent have incomes of less than £750, no assets or less than £300 or are on supplementary benefits.

6.6 Regular outgoings

We asked all elderly individuals whether they (and their spouses, where applicable) have any of a list of regular financial outgoings (as shown opposite).

Table 6.6.1 Combined regular outgoings of married couples (by husband's age and wife's age)

	Total	Husband	l's age		Wife's ag	Wife's age			
		64 & under	65-74	75 & over	59 & under	60-64	65-74	75 & over	
Married couples WEIGHTED unweighted figures)	(1,203) (749)	(54) (29) %	(871) (447) %	(278) (273) %	(113) (62) %	(216) (116) %	(703) (406) %	(171) (165) %	
Combined outgoings Television rental	46.7	51.9	47.7	42.8	51.3	45.4	46.4	46.8	
Life, endowment assurance(1) Mail order, clothing club	55.8 8.1	70.4 7.4	60.2 8.8	39.2 5.8	53.0 5.3	66.7 12.0	57.8 8.4	35.7 3.5	
Hire purchase Others	3.1 5.2	3.7	3.3 4.9	2.2 7.2	6.2 3.5	4.2 7.4	2.8 4.6	0.6 6.4	
None	25.1	24.1	21.7	36.0	27.4	18.5	23.2	39.8	
otal weekly amount	25.1	24.1	21.7	36.0	27.4	18.5	23.2	39.8	
9p or less	20.5	11.1	21.3	19.8	12.4	20.4	21.3	22.8	
0p−99p 00p−199p	22.0 22.0	18.5 31.5	23.1 22.6	19.1 18.0	17.7 23.9	21.3 22.2	23.9 23.5	17.6 14.0	
00p-299p 00p or more	6.2 3.8	7.4 7.4	7.1 3.9	3.3 2.8	12.4 5.3	10.2 7.4	4.8 2.7	2.9 2.9	
Not stated	0.4	_	0.2	1.1	0.9	-	0.6	-	
Fotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ Insurance of house and contents was not prompted and does not appear here. A few informants may have mentioned it under 'others' but in the absence of prompting this cannot be assumed to have occurred. We were primarily interested in regular recurrent outgoings and therefore did not include this in the prompt list.

Table 6.6.2 Regular outgoings of non-married persons (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men			Women			
	total	Total	65-74	74 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
Non-married persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,846) (1,331) %	(391) (274) %	(230) (118) %	(161) (156) %	(1,445) (1,057) %	(767) (383) %	(543) (532) %	(145) (142) %
Outgoings								
Television rental	35.0	26.6	24.3	29.8	37.3	40.3	36.3	24.8
Life, endowment, assurance	34.6	35.3	40.9	27.3	34.4	41.6	31.3	8.3
Mail order, clothing club	4.4	1.8	1.7	1.9	5.1	5.7	4.8	3.4
Hire purchase	1.7	0.5	_	1.2	1.8	2.2	1.3	1.4
Others	4.8	4.3	4.8	3.7	4.9	5.6	5.0	0.7
None	41.3	47.3	44.8	50.9	39.7	33.4	42.2	64.1
Total weekly amount								
Nil	41.3	47.3	44.8	50.9	39.7	33.4	42.2	64.1
49p or less	27.3	28.9	30.0	27.3	26.9	28.9	26.7	16.6
50p-99p	16.3	10.7	8.7	13.7	17.8	19.3	17.1	12.4
100p-199p	10.2	8.1	10.4	5.0	10.7	12.8	9.2	5.5
200p-299p	2,4	2.8	3.9	1.2	2.3	2.9	1.8	0.7
300p or more	0.9	0.8	1.3	_	1.0	1.2	0.9	_
Not stated	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.9	1.7	1.6	2.0	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0

The decrease in the percentage who have any outgoings is particularly marked at the age of 75. The same effect is seen whether husband's or wife's age is taken as the criterion. The sharpest drop is in the percentage having life or endowment assurance. This is a not unexpected finding.

A much lower percentage of non-married persons than of elderly married couples have regular outgoings of the kinds described, and their average expenditure is lower. This cannot be ascribed to the higher average age of non-married people, because, comparing age group with age group, the outgoings of non-married persons are consistently less. The difference in the percentages of couples and of individuals who have any form of life assurance is perhaps not surprising because this is often taken out for the benefit of another person (the survivor). The lower percentage who pay television rental is also capable of

explanation at least in part. We have shown that, among elderly married couples, in almost 99 per cent of instances (including cases where there are others in the household) the husband is the head of household, whereas among non-married persons 82 per cent are heads. It is likely that television rental, if any, is most often the responsibility of the head of household.

Among married couples, those with lower incomes are more likely than those with higher incomes to have regular outgoings of the kinds shown. This may well be because those with higher incomes are more likely to be able to pay eash or have already acquired possessions. Married couples with higher incomes who do have outgoings on average spend more.

Table 6.6.3 Regular outgoings of married couples and of non-married persons (by total annual income)

	Married co	uples			Non-marr	ied persons		
	Total annu	al income(1)			Total anni	ial income(1)		
	£1,499 & under	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 & over	£749 & under	£750 – £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 & over
Elderly couples/persons								
WEIGHTED	(587)	(316)	(162)	(99)	(483)	(777)	(366)	(162)
(unweighted figures)	(382)	(191)	(97)	(57)	(359)	(562)	(263)	(106)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Outgoings			10.0	20.4	26.2	25.0	42.1	20.0
Television rental	49.9	44.9	48.8	39.4	26.3	35.8	42.1 33.3	38.9 18.5
Life, endowment, assurance	58.4	64.2	50.0	32.3	32.7	41.1	5.2	18.5
Mail order, clothing club	8.5	9.8	9.3	-	3.3	5.3	2.5	
Hire purchase	3.7	1.3	6.2	_	1.4	1.0	3.6	9,9
Others	4.6	7.0	3.1	5.0	4.8	4.4	3.0	9.9
None	21.6	21.2	27.2	44.4	49.3	36.8	36.6	46.9
Total weekly amount								
Nil	21.6	21.2	27.2	44.4	49.3	36.8	36.6	46.9
		24.2	14.8	7.1	28.1	30.2	26.8	16,7
49p or less	24.2	21.2 23.7		2.0	12.6	21.0	15.0	11.1
50p-99p	26.4		11.1 32.7	30.3	7.0	8.3	15.8	15.4
100p-199p	18.7	24.4 6.1	6.8	8.1	1.2	1.7	4.1	3.8
200p-299p	5.8	3.5	6.8	7.1	1.2	0.7	0.6	3.7
300p or more	2.9	3.5	0.8	7.1	1.0	0.7	0.0	3.1
Not stated	0.3	_	0.6	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.1	2.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are not shown.

Table 6.6.4 Regular outgoings of married couples and of non-married persons (by employment status)

	Married couple	es	Non-married	couples
	One or both working	NEITHER working	Working	NOT working
Elderly couples/persons				
WEIGHTED	(319)	(884)	(125)	(1,721)
(unweighted figures)	(172)	(577)	(74)	(1,257)
	%	%	%	%
Outgoings.				
TV rental	39.5	49.3	45.6	34.2
Life, endowment, assurance	63.0	53.2	32.0	34.8
Mail order, clothing club	10.3	7.2	5.6	4.4
Hire purchase	3.8	2.8	1.6	1.5
Others	4.4	5.5	1.6 ·	5.0
None	26.6	24.6	41.6	41.3
Total weekly amount				
Nil	26.6	24.6	41.6	41.3
49p or less	18.2	21.4	13.6	28.3
50p-99p	19.1	23.0	19.2	16.3
100p-199p	21.9	21.9	18.4	9.6
200p-299p	6.9	6.0	4.0	2.0
300p or more	7.2	2.6	1.6	1.0
Not stated	-	0.6	1.6	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 6.6.5 Regular outgoings of married couples and of non-married persons (by type of household and mobility)

	Married co	ouples			Non-marri	Non-married persons			
	Household	ı	Mobility		Household	1	Mobility		
	Live on own	Live with others	One bed- fast, house- bound	Both go out	Lives alone	Lives with others	Bedfast house- bound	Goes	
Elderly counples/persons	(00.6)	(207)	(69)	(1,134)	(1,144)	(702)	(105)	(1,741)	
WEIGHTED	(996)		(57)	(694)	(809)	(522)	(93)	(1,238)	
(unweighted figures)	(626) %	(123)	(37)	%	%	%	%	%	
Outgoings		,-						25.2	
Television rental	46.0	50.2	47.8	30.4	39.4	27.7	31.4	35.2	
ife, endowment, assurance	55.6	56.5	39.1	56.8	35.6	33.0	23.8	35.3	
Mail order, clothing club	6.1	17.4	11.6	7.9	4.3	4.7	2.9	4.5	
lire purchase	3.0	3.4	2.9	3.1	1.1	2.1	_	1.6	
Others	5.1	5.8	8.7	5.0	4.9	4.6	3.8	4.8	
None	25.8	21.7	27.5	25.0	37.5	47.6	54.3	40.6	
Total weekly amount									
Nil	25.8	21.7	27.5	25.0	37.5	47.6	54.3	40.6	
19p or less	21.9	14.0	15.9	20.8	28.6	25.2	22.9	27.6	
50p-99p	21.6	23.7	17.4	22.2	19.8	11.1	9.5	16.9	
100p – 199p	21.2	25.1	18.8	22.1	10.2	10.3	8.6	10.2	
200p – 199p 200p – 299p	5.9	7.7	7.2	6.2	2.2	2.1	1.0	2.2	
300p or more	3.1	7.2	11.6	3.3	0.7	1.6	1.0	1.0	
Not stated	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.3	1.2	2.1	2.9	1.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Among non-married persons those with the lowest and those with the highest incomes are least likely to have outgoings. In the case of those with the highest incomes possibly the same considerations apply as with married couples with higher incomes. The lowest income level of non-married people is much lower than that of married cuples, so it seems possible that many non-married people in the lowest income group (nearly half of whom live alone) are unable to afford expenditure of this kind.

In order to investigate whether some elderly people continue to work in order to pay for things which they have not been able to obtain earlier, we have compared the regular outgoings of married couples where one or both are working with those of couples where neither are working, and the regular outgoings of working and non-working non-married people.

Workers and non-workers (both married and nonmarried) differ to some extent in the nature of their outgoings and in the average amount spent, but the differences are not consistent and seem only to indicate that working people, particularly non-married working people, have higher average levels of expenditure. The differences do not follow the same pattern in the case of married couples as in the case of non-married individuals. Among couples outgoings are on average slightly higher for those living with others and for those with a housebound or bedfast partner, while the reverse is true in the case of the non-married. This can probably be explained by the lower income level of non-married people living alone and by the fact that about two-fifths of the non-married bedfast and housebound group live alone.

We have shown that nearly nineteen out of twenty elderly persons are heads of households or the wives of heads of households. We asked those who are neither of these whether they make any regular contributions to the housekeeping. The question did not produce as much firm information as hoped because the number of married couples (13 unweighted) is insufficient for analysis. Among non-married non-heads 14 per cent do not make contributions on a regular basis or were unable to say how much they pay 71.5 per cent contribute £450 a year or more. What can be said, therefore, is that many elderly people living in younger persons' households make an appreciable contribution towards the upkeep.

7. Tenure of accommodation; total cost of housing(1)

7.1 Introduction

The conditions and circumstances of elderly people may differ according to whether the head of household is the elderly person or a young person. In the former case the elderly person or persons are responsible for the rent or mortgage payments and rates, though in some cases they receive assistance from younger members of the household. In the latter the younger person has the responsibility. In this section, therefore, we show separately those households where the head is an elderly person(2) and those where the head is non-elderly. The latter are too few for very detailed analysis.

In the case of younger heads, where an elderly person in the household was being interviewed, he or she quite often did not know details of such things as rent, rebates, etc. Sometimes it was not possible or desirable to question the younger heads and so the information obtained in respect of these households is less complete than where the head is elderly.

7.2 Elderly and younger heads

We interviewed 2,622 elderly persons in 1,975 households (weighted figures 3,869) and 2,920 respectively). Two elderly persons (weighted figure three) were boarders in households where there were no other elderly persons. These boarders are omitted from tables relating to headship, tenure and expenditure on housing.

92.7 per cent of households have an elderly head. Regional differences are not very great: in none does the percentage fall below 90.5 per cent or exceed 95.1 per cent.

Households consisting of one elderly person alone, elderly married couples only, elderly siblings only, must by definition have elderly heads. In households consisting of one elderly person plus others, 65.0 per cent have an elderly head, while among households containing more than one elderly person plus others, 89.3 per cent have an elderly head. The former type is more likely to

 In considering housing costs it should be borne in mind that interviewing took place in January and February 1976 and that there may have been changes in rents, rates, mortgage rates, etc., since then.

(2) In two per cent of these the titular head (by standard definition) is the non-elderly head of an elderly wife. Because a married couple is frequently treated as an entity we have treated these as (households with) elderly heads and shall refer to them as such. Couples with an elderly husband and non-elderly wife are also treated as elderly couples, but in this case the problem of headship does not arise.

include cases where an elderly person has gone to live with younger members of the family, the latter cases where younger people have continued to live with elderly parents.

Table 7.2.1 Sex and age composition

	of elderly heads	
		%
Men	64 & under	2.0
	65-74	39.2
	75-84	13.1
	85 & over	1.5
	Total men	55.8
Women	65-74	24.3
TTOMCH	75-84	16.1
	85 & over	3.8
	Total women	44.2
	Grand total	100.0
-		

13.2 per cent of elderly heads of household are working.

44 per cent are married (in all these cases the husband is, by standard definition the head).

45.8 per cent are widowed, eight per cent single and 2.2 per cent divorced.

Looked at another way 69.9 per cent of elderly persons are heads of households. Among elderly men the figure is 94.5 per cent and among women 51.4 per cent (the anachronistic definition is responsible to a great extent for the difference).

7.3 Tenure of dwelling

The level of home ownership is very different among households with an elderly head and those with a younger head.

The difference lies mainly in the much higher proportion of younger heads who are buying their homes on a mortgage, which is paralleled by a much higher proportion of elderly heads renting, both from councils and from private landlords. It can be calculated that 47 per cent of elderly persons live in dwellings owned outright by themselves or spouses.

The number of younger heads is too small for detailed analysis, but there are some very marked differences in tenure between different groups of elderly heads.

Table 7.3.1 Tenure of dwelling (by type of head)

	Total	Househo	olds with:
		Elderly	Younger
All households WEIGHTED	(2,917)	(2,705)	(212)
(unweighted figures)	(1,973)	(1,811)	(162)
(unweighted figures)	%	%	%
Tenure of dwelling			
Owns outright	45.0	45.2	41.5
	4.5	2.6	28.3
Owns on mortgage Owns, not stated how	0.8	0.7	1.4
Owns, not stated now	0.0		
Rents from council	30.2	31.1	17.9
Rents privately	16.3	17.1	6.1
Kems privately			
Lives rent-free(1)	3.1	3.3	1.4
Lives rem-tree			
Not stated	0.2	_	3.3
NOT STATEG			
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) 0.7 per cent have furniture wholly or partly provided.

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n a rd er The following summarises tenure among elderly heads with different demographic characteristics and living in different regions.

The differences between home ownership and council renting among siblings and among other types of family are significant in spite of the small number in the group of elderly siblings.

The most striking differences, however, are those between different areas. The comparatively low levels of home ownership and council renting, accompanied by a high level of private renting, in the Greater London area are worth noting.

It should be noted that the figures for men and women do not necessarily represent the extent of house ownership or of renting by the sexes. This arises from the standard definition of the head. A male head whose

Table 7.3.2 Tenure of dwelling (by sex, age, marital status of head of household, type of household, region and population density)

	Elderly	Unweighted	Tenure	Tenure					
	HOH WEIGHTED	figures	Owned	:		Rented		Rent Free	
			Out right	Mort- gage		Council	Private	rice	
Households with elderly heads	(2,705)	(1,811)	45.2	2.6	0.7	31.1	17.1	3.3 = 100	
Sex of HOH									
Man	(1,509)	(956)%	47.2	3.6	0.8	29.8	15.8	2.7	
Woman	(1,196)	(855)%	42.7	1.3	0.6	32.8	18.6	4.0	
Age of HOH							0.0	7.4	
64 & under(1)(2)	(54)	(29)%	37.0	9.3		37.0	9.3	2.8	
65-74	(1,718)	(865)%	46.3	3.0	0.6	30.8	16.5	3.5	
75-84	(789)	(776)%	44.4	1.6	1.0	30.8	18.6	4.9	
85 & over	(144)	(141)%	41.0	_	0.7	34.7	18.8	4.9	
Type of household		(000) #4	38.7		0.3	35.1	19.6	5.1	
Elderly person on own	(1,144)	(809)%	49.8	1.1 2.8	0.9	28.6	15.6	2.3	
Elderly couple only	(996)	(626)%	64.8	2.0	3.7	7.4	22.2	1.9	
Elderly siblings only ⁽²⁾	(54)	(41)% (228)%	47.2	5.6	0.3	31.1	14.7	1.2	
One elderly with others	(360) (151)	(107)%	53.0	6.0	2.0	25.8	11.9	1.3	
More than one with others	(151)	(107)70	33.0	0.0	2.0	20.0	1117		
Marital status of HOH	(1.100)	(241)07	48.9	3.4	0.9	29.2	15.4	2.0	
Married	(1,190) (1,239)	(741)% (893)%	41.6	1.8	0.5	34.8	17.7	3.6	
Widowed Single	(216)	(144)%	46.8	1.4	0.9	24.5	21.3	5.1	
Divorced etc. (2)	(60)	(33)%	41.7	6.7	-	16.7	23.3	11.6	
Divorced etc. (4)	(60)	(33)70	41.7	0.7		1017			
Standard region North	(172)	(112)%	34.3	1.2	_	52.9	8.7	2.9	
Yorkshire & Humberside	(268)	(188)%	38.8	2.2	_	41.4	15.3	2.3	
Northwest	(379)	(258)%	46.7	2.4	_	31.7	16.9	2.4	
E Midlands & E Anglia	(377)	(253)%	51.5	2.9	-	30.0	13.5	2.1	
W Midlands	(276)	(182)%	46.4	1.8	_	33.0	17.4	1.4	
Greater London	(350)	(230)%	33.7	3.7	2.6	24.9	32.9	2.3	
Southeast & Southwest	(571)	(381)%	45.4	1.6	0.9	31.5	14.4	6.4	
'Retirement areas'	(312)	(207)%	59.3	4.8	1.6	15.7	14.7	3.8	
Population density									
Greater London	(350)	(230)%	33.7	3.7	2.6	24.9	32.9	2.3	
Metropolitan counties	(692)	(470%)	41.2	1.9	-	39.3	16.3	1.2	
Non-metropolitan counties: high	(345)	(231)%	47.0	4.1	0.9	28.7	18.6	0.9	
medi		(246)%	48.3	4.0	-	28.9	14.1	4.8	
low	(941)	(634%)	50.7	1.6	0.7	29.2	12.4	5.3	

(1) ie non-elderly husbands of elderly wives.

⁽²⁾ Percentages in these lines should be treated with reserve because the bases are comparatively small.

Table 7.3.3 Sole and joint tenure of dwellings of elderly heads (by sex of head and type of tenure)

	Total	Sex of he	ad	Tenure		
		Man	Woman	Owned	Rented	Rent Free
Elderly heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(2,651) (1,782)	(1,455) (927)	(1,196) (855) %	(1,288) (858) %	(1,279) (876) %	(84) (58)
Tenure is:				, .	,,,	,,,
Sole Joint with household	81.3	70.8	94.1	71.6	90.9	84.5
member	17.3	27.3	5.1	27.0	7.9	10.7
Joint with person outside	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.1	_	-
Not stated	0.9	1.4	0.2	0.3	1.2	4.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

home is actually the property of his wife would be recorded as owning it. We recorded whether the property was owned jointly or held on a joint tenancy (figures are given above) but this information does not reveal the facts about the wife's sole ownership or tenancy. On 20 occasions interviewers had noted that the dwelling was the wife's property, but as no question was specifically asked, this cannot be taken as quantitative.

Joint tenure appears to be commoner among men than among women, but this may be an artefact of the definition of head.

Joint ownership is commoner than joint tenancy.

Joint tenure is reported in 36.1 per cent of households consisting of an elderly couple only and in 38.9 per cent of those consisting of elderly siblings only.

0.5 per cent of elderly heads rent furnished: in Greater London the figure is 2.9 per cent.

7.4 Assistance towards the cost of housing

In order to calculate the total cost of housing we included, in addition to questions regarding the amounts paid in mortgage repayments, ground rent, rent and rates, a number of questions relating to rent and rates rebates, rent holidays and rent allowances. The answers to some of these questions are of interest in themselves (the number of non-elderly heads who are tenants is too small for analysis).

(a) Rent holidays(3) (Council tenants only)

43 percent of elderly council tenants have a rentholiday. Since this is usually, if not always, a nonmeans tested administrative arrangement by local councils, it is not surprising that there is little difference in the proportions among council tenants in different demographic groups. There are, however, marked differences between areas.

(b) Rent rebates(4) (Council tenants only)

35 per cent of elderly council tenants received a rentebate from the council in connection with their last rent payment. This is a means-tested benefit and therefore, as might be expected, while the differences between areas are not significant, those between heads of households with different demographic characteristics are, in some instances, quite pronounced. The description at the left refers to the elderly head of household.

Regional variations are not significant.

We asked those who did not receive a rebate whether they had applied for one. 19.1 per cent of those who

- (3) A rent holiday is a system whereby some local authorities spread the basic rent over fewer than 52 payments a year. Thus, there are some weeks in the year (usually Christmas or summertime) when no rent has to be paid. This applies to all LA tenants and does not involve any reduction in the total amount of rent.
- (4) A rent rebate is a reduction in the amount of rent payable granted by local authorities and development corporations to their tenants. The amount of rebate depends on the rent charged, the applicant's income (involving that received by a spouse) and the size of the household.

Table 7.4.1 Percentage of council tenants who have a rent holiday in different regions and population

density areas			
Standard region	%	Population density	%
North	60.4	Greater London	_
Yorkshire & Humberside	44.1	Metropolitan counties	75.7
Northwest	75.8	Non-metropolitan counties:	
E Midlands & E Anglia	32.7	high	40.4
W Midlands	86.8	medium	32.1
Greater London	-	low	29.6
Southeast & Southwest	21.1		
'Retirement areas'	26.5		

Table 7.4.2 Percentage of council tenants who receive rent rebates in

each demographic group	
Sex HOH	%
Men	43.6
Women	25.8
Age(1) HOH	
65-74	38.0
75-84	35.4
85 & over	20.0
Marital status ⁽²⁾ HOH	
Married	46.8
Widowed	27.8
Single	18.9
Type of household(3)	
Elderly person alone	28.9
Elderly married couple only	20.1
Others - one elderly person	25.0
Others, more than one elderly	23.3
Employment HOH	
Working	26.3
Not working	36.4

(1) Heads aged less than 65 omitted because few in number.

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(2) Divorced or separated heads omitted because few in number.

(3) Elderly siblings included with 'Others - more than one elderly'.

do not receive a rebate (12.2 per cent of all council tenants) have applied and not received one. There are some differences between groups but the numbers involved at this stage are small in some instances, so that some differences are not statistically significant.

One difference that is significant, in spite of the small numbers, is that between Greater London and the rest of the country. In Greater London 5.1 per cent have applied and not received, compared with 20.8 per cent in the rest of the country. So too is that between lowest-density areas and the rest (27.2 per cent compared with 15.3 per cent). These differences do not correspond to any significant differences in the percentages who are currently receiving rebates, although that for Greater London (31 per cent) is a little lower and that for lowest-density areas (37.8 per cent) a little higher than the national average (35.3 per cent). Possibly these findings reflect different local authority policies in fixing basic rents and granting rebates.

When those elderly council tenants who have not applied for a rent rebate were asked why they have not done so 63.4 per cent say that they are ineligible

Table 7.4.3 Percentages who receive supplementary benefit or whose income is too high among non applicants for rent rebates (by sex, age, marital and employment status of head of household, household type and population density)

	Non-app-	Un-	Giving answ	er:
	licants WEIGHTED	weighted figures	Receiving SB	Income too high
Sex HOH				
Men	(191)	(115)%	49.2	38.2
Women	(241)	(180)%	74.7	6.6
Age HOH				
74 & under(1)	(270)	(134)%	56.3 75.3	27.4 9.3
5 & over	(162)	(161)%	15.3	9.3
Marital status ⁽²⁾ HOH				
Married	(139)	(81)%	45.3	45.3
Vidowed	(254)	(190)%	72.4	9.4
Household type				
Elderly person alone	(237)	(172)%	78.1	4.2
Elderly married couple only	(117)	(69)%	42.7	47.9
Others	(78)	(54)%	50.0	29.5
Employment HOH				
Working	(59)	(30)%	_	100.0
Not working	(373)	(265)%	73.4	8.0
Population density				
Greater London(3)	(56)	(34)%	37.5	26.8
Metropolitan counties	(153)	(106)%	68.6	20.3
Non-metropolitan counties:				
high	(46)	(33)%	82.6	4.3
medium	(58)	(37)%	67.2	22.4
low	(119)	(85)%	59.7	23.5

(1) Includes a few male heads under 65.

(2) Single and divorced etc. too few to show.

(3) 21.4 per cent in Greater London say their rent is very low. For the rest of the areas the figure is 1.3 per cent.

because they already receive supplementary benefits and a further 20.6 per cent that their income or savings level is too high. 6.7 per cent say that they are too independent and 3.9 per cent that their present rent is very low. Only 2.8 per cent profess ignorance of the scheme.

Almost the only significant differences are between the percentages giving the first two answers. Many of these differences are large enough to be significant in spite of small numbers, and we show on page 37 groups exhibiting such differences.

(c) Rent allowances(5) (private tenants only)

Private tenants were asked whether they receive a rent allowance from the local authority. 19.9 per cent of elderly private tenants do so.

Once again, numbers are too small to detect many significant differences between groups, but the following are worth comment:

Sex, age and marital status of elderly heads show only small differences in the percentages receiving allowances. 20.1 per cent of elderly heads living alone and 24.5 per cent of elderly married couples receive allowances, compared with 10.8 per cent of other types of household. For working and non-working heads the figures are 2.6 per cent and 23.4 per cent respectively.

31 per cent of households living in metropolitan counties receive allowances, compared with 16.3 per cent of those living in other areas.

11.2 per cent of those who do not receive an allowance (8.9 per cent of all private tenants) have applied but not received one.

When those who have not applied were asked why they have not done so, 29.7 per cent say they already receive supplementary benefit, 22.5 per cent that their income or savings level is too high and 23.8 per cent that their ent is very low. The only other answers given by appreciable numbers are that they are too independent (7.8 per cent) and that they were not aware of the scheme (6.3 per cent).

(d) Rates rebates(6) (owners and tenants)

All heads of households who make separate payments⁽⁷⁾ for rates (57.9 per cent of elderly, 70.2 per

- (5) A rent allowance is an allowance made by local authorities to needy private tenants to assist them in paying their rent. The amount of allowance depends on the rent payable, the applicant's income (including that received by a spouse) and the size of the household.
- (6) A rate rebate is a reduction in the amount of rates payable granted by local authorities. The amount of rebate depends on the sace of the household, the household income and the rates payable. Owner-occupiers, council tenants and tenants in either furnished or unfurnished property are eligible for rate rebates, whether they pay rates separately or included in their rent to the landford.
- (7) We did not ask those who do not make a separate payment for rates whether they receive a rate rebate. There would be no "last payment" of rates to which to relate it, and it is quite possible that many tenants who do not make separate payments would have found it impossible to distinguish between a rates rebate and a rent rebate in connection with the same payment.

cent of younger heads) were asked whether they had received a rates rebate in connection with their last payment.

40.1 per cent of elderly ratepayers, compared with 8.6 per cent of younger ratepayers, received a rates rebate.

Regional variations from the average are not very great and do not form a consistent pattern, but the percentages of elderly heads who received rates rebates in other groups exhibit some striking differences.

Table 7.4.4 Percentage of ratepayers who received rebates in different demographic groups

	Ratepayers WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures	Ratepayers who received rebates
			%
Sex (HOH)			
Men	(922)	(592)	38.6
Women	(644)	(457)	42.2
Age (HOH)			
64 & under	(30)	(17)	3,3(1)
65-74	(1,007)	(515)	38.7
75-84	(459)	(448)	43.1
85 & over	(70)	(69)	55.7
Marital status (HOH)			
Married	(746)	(470)	39.8
Widowed	(667)	(480)	44.4
Single, divorced,			
separated	(153)	(99)	22.9(2)
Employment (HOH)			
Working	(212)	(118)	14.2
Not working	(1,354)	(931)	44.2
Type of household			
Elderly person alone	(575)	(406)	45.0
Elderly married couple			
only	(625)	(395)	42.6
Elderly siblings only	(38)	(28)	42.1(3)
Others, one elderly	(224)	(141)	27.7
Others, more than one			
elderly	(104)	(79)	24.0

 The difference between this figure and the remainder is significant in spite of the small number of heads of household aged 64 and under (most of these are working).

(2) The difference between the figures for single heads on the one hand and divorced and separated on the other is very small, so the two are combined because of the small number in the latter group.

(3) Shown separately for completeness.

Those who did not receive a rates rebate were asked whether they have applied for one for the (current) financial year April 1975—March 1976. 91.3 per cent of elderly ratepayers and 98.4 per cent of non-elderly have not applied. Among the elderly, 1.2 per cent have been granted a rebate for the next payment, 4.3 per cent have not heard and 3.2 per cent have been refused.

When asked why they have not applied for a rates rebate 46 per cent of elderly non-applicants say their income or savings level is too high; 11.8 per cent that they are ineligible but do not say why; 16.7 per cent that they are receiving supplementary benefits. None of the other reasons given are mentioned by as many

as four per cent, but 8.4 per cent could not give a reason.

Among non-elderly non-applicants 77.1 per cent believe themselves to be ineligible. In 14.0 per cent no reason is given. Only 2.4 per cent say they are receiving supplementary benefits.

(e) Summary of assistance with housing costs of the

We can summarise the assistance received by elderly tenants in respect of rent, because council and private tenants do not overlap, 64.6 per cent of alf elderly tenants rent from a council: 22.8 per cent receive a rent rebate. 53.4 per cent rent privately, 7.1 per cent receive a rent allowance. 28.3 per cent of elderly tenants mention supplementary benefits. (This is lower than the 49 per cent of elderly tenants found by the Family Expenditure Survey to be receiving SB. A possible explanation is that our figure represents the answers to the last of a series of questions, at various stages of which SB might have been involved. Those refused a rebate, those who did not apply because they believed themselves ineligible or who gave vague reasons might in some cases be receiving SB.)

The great majority of separate ratepayers are owner occupiers (83.8 per cent), but some are tenants. There may therefore be a small overlap with the tenant groups. 40.1 per cent of separate ratepayers receive a rates rebate, 8.9 per cent receive supplementary benefits.

We can therefore calculate that roughly 35 per cent of all elderly householders receive help from councils in the form of rent rebates, rent allowances and/or rates rebates. This calculation is based on answers to specific questions. Supplementary benefits are mentioned as spontaneous answers to questions asking why applications for rebates or allowances have not been made. It is therefore possible that there is some understatement of the extent to which supplementary benefits are received, because some people give vague or unspecific answers to these questions. Taking the answers at their face value, roughly onesixth of all elderly householders (whether owners or tenants) receive assistance towards housing costs from supplementary benefits. That is to say at least half the elderly householders are receiving assistance either from local authorities or social security.

Because of the limitations described, exact comparisons might not be reliable, but, even making allowances for possible under and overstatements there are some groups which include significantly higher and lower proportions who receive assistance. The most marked differences are in the proportions who receive supplementary benefits, but there are some differences in the extent of local authority help and these are indicated in the following summary.

Roughly two-thirds or more receiving help

Women; those aged 75 and over; those living alone; widowed persons.

Less than two-fifths receiving help

Working heads (only 3.8 per cent receive rebates, none receive SB); households containing younger people (council assistance as well as SB received by fewer than average); single and divorced heads (council assistance as well as SB received by fewer than average).

7.5 Total annual cost of housing(8)

In calculating the total annual cost of housing we have taken into account any of the following which are paid out or received: mortgage repayments; ground rent etc; rent; rates; rent holidays; rent rebates; rent allowances; rates rebates.

We first compare in detail the annual expenditure of elderly and younger heads.

Table 7.5.1 Total annual expenditure on housing by households with elderly and younger heads

	Elderly	Younge
All households WEIGHTED	(2,705)	(212)
(unweighted figures)	(1,811)	(162)
	%	%
Annual expenditure		
Less than £50	11.9	6.1
£50 but less than £100	20.7	8.0
£100 but less than £150	15.9	13.7
£150 but less than £200	8.8	8.5
£200 but less than £250	8.2	3.8
£250 but less than £300	9.6	9.0
£300 but less than £350	7.0	3.3
£350 but less than £400	3.3	1.4
£400 or more	4.2	20.7
Lives rent-free	3.3	1.4
Inadequate information	7.2	24.1
Total	100.0	100.0
Mean expenditure(1)	£173	£310
Median expenditure(1)	£138	£212
Standard deviation(1)	£129	£299

⁽¹⁾ Omitting those who live rent free or who gave inadequate information.

We have shown that the expenditure of about 35 per cent of the elderly householders is reduced at source by rent and rates rebates. The foregoing figures show the actual amounts paid and therefore do not give an indication of what the cost would be without this reduction. On the other hand those who are receiving assistance in the form of supplementary benefits are shown as paying the full amount.

The expenditure of younger heads cannot be looked at in the same light as that of elderly. The former is in most cases primarily for the accommodation of the younger

⁽⁸⁾ Owner-occupiers were not asked about the costs of repairs and decorations. Nor were tenants asked whether they were liable for these. Housing costs formed only a small part of a very long interview and we could not follow these matters up in greater detail.

Table 7.5.2 Total annual expenditure on housing (by tenure)

	Elderly heads: tenure				Younger	heads
	Own outright	Own mortgage	Rent— council	Rent- private	Own- outright	Own- mortgage
Households WEIGHTED	(1,224)	(70)	(842)	(462)	(88)	(60)
(unweighted figures)	(817)	(43)	(594)	(326)	(66)	(45)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Annual expenditure						
Less than £100	51.3	5.7	14.8	27.1	29.5	
£100 but less than £150	23.0	5.7	8.7	15.2	30.7	
£150 but less than £200	7.6	7.1	7.6	16.5	10.2	5.0
£200 but less than £250	3.8	11.4	14.5	10.2	4.5	_
£250 but less than £300	2.4	10.0	21.5	9.1	1.1	10.0
£300 but less than £350	1.6	2.9	17.3	5.0	1.1	1.7
£350 but less than £400	0.3	11.4	7.4	3.0		
£400 or more	0.7	28.6 .	6.3	7.1	-	55.0
Inadequate information	9.4	17.1	1.9	6.9	22.7	28.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean expenditure(1)	£105	£338	£241	£194	£115	£622
Median expenditure(1)	£88	£325	£258	£163	£115	£558
Standard deviation(1)	£75	£162	£114	£160	£58	£369

⁽¹⁾ Omitting those who give inadequate information.

head's immediate family. He (or, more rarely, she) may be involved in extra cost (eg by buying or renting a larger house) but the extent of this cannot be estimated. It can, perhaps, be said, in the light of the fact that about half the elderly heads receive assistance from public funds in one way or another, that families with younger heads are making a contribution which is not negligible towards the upkeep of elderly people.

In the light of the limitations already described it is not worthwhile to produce many detailed comparisons. The level of housing costs in general in different areas is known from other sources and it can be said that the costs of housing of elderly households follow roughly the same pattern (eg expenditure in London is higher than elsewhere).

It is, however, worth comparing the costs of those who own outright with those of others.

In the above table we have omitted households with elderly heads who do not say whether they own outright or on mortgage. We include, for purposes of comparison, the two groups of younger heads who own outright and who own on mortgage. Although the numbers in some groups are not large and the proportion who give inadequate information comparatively high, the differences are in many instances so great as to be significant.

Both elderly and younger heads who own outright have very much lower levels of expenditure than others. The

former group includes an appreciably higher proportion who receive rates rebates, which probably accounts for the higher expenditure level of the latter.

The appreciably higher expenditure level of younger heads with mortgages compared with that of elderly heads appears unlikely to be wholly accounted for by rates rebates to the latter. It may be that elderly heads took out mortgages some years ago when houses cost less and that consequently their repayments are lower.

It is worth noting that the expenditure level of council tenants is higher than that of private tenants. We shall show later that their housing conditions and amenities are better on average.

7.6 Items included in rent

We asked all renters whether the rent covered any of a prompt list of items (light, heat, fuel for cooking, hot water, crockery, linen, service).

92 per cent of elderly renters say none of the items are covered. 4.5 per cent say heat is provided, 4.8 per cent hot water. No other item is mentioned by as many as two per cent.

For the overwhelming majority of renters, therefore, the rent covers the accommodation itself and nothing else.

8.1 Introduction

Many elderly people spend a great deal of time at home and their well-being may depend to a great extent on the kind of place in which they live. We therefore asked a number of questions about the household accommodation.

The elderly boarders in households where there are no other elderly are included (in households with non-elderly heads). The weighted total is only three, so their inclusion cannot affect the findings, but this small group should not be completely omitted.

8.2 Type of accommodation

We first compare the type of accommodation occupied by households with elderly and with younger heads.

Obviously, no households with a younger head live in old people's accommodation. Apart from this, the much larger proportion of younger heads who occupy whole houses is striking.

Among households with an elderly head there are marked differences between groups. The type of accommodation is less important than the amenities it contains and we therefore touch on only those points which appear to be of particular importance to the wellbeing of the elderly who live in them.

25.9 per cent of elderly council tenants live in old people's accommodation. We have shown elsewhere that the percentage of elderly heads who are council tenants varies widely in different groups. The numbers would be too small to examine the percentage of council tenants in each group who live in old people's accommodation, but we can compare the percentages of all elderly heads in each group who are council tenants with those who live in council old people's accommodation.

Table 8.2.1 Type of accommodation (by type of head)

	Total	Househo	olds with:
		Elderly	Younger
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
Type of accommodation			
Old people's flat with warden	2.8	3.1	_
Old people's bungalow with warden	1.9	2.0	_
Other old people's accommo-	1.9	2.0	
dation (no warden)	3.2	3.3	_
Flat (purpose-built)	8.2	8.5	3.8
Flat (converted house)	3.7	3.8	1.4
Maisonette	1.1	1.1	0.5
Rooms in house	2.4	2.5	1.4
Bungalow	11.7	11.9	8.4
Whole house	63.1	61.6	83.3
Other, not stated	2.0	2.2	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

For example, in the summary following, 31.1 per cent of all households with elderly heads live in council dwellings of all kinds (including old people's dwellings) and eight per cent of all households live in council old people's dwellings.

Women heads, those aged 85 and over and those living alone are most likely to be living in old people's accommodation. Two thirds of those living in such dwellings are women, three quarters are living alone.

The rank orders of the regions for all council tenants and for tenants of old people's dwellings are very similar (correlation +0.8) but the latter percentages vary widely. The very low percentage in Greater London is worth noting. Possibly the GLC provides out-county accommodation for the elderly.

Table 8.2.2 Percentages of elderly heads who are council tenants and who live in old people's dwellings

	Households	Unweighted	Council ter	ants
	with elderly heads WEIGHTED	figures	All dwellings	Old people's dwellings
All cldcrly heads	(2,705)	(1,811)%	31,1	8.0
Sex (HOH)				
Men	(1,509)	(956)%	29.8	5.0
Women	(1,196)	(855)%	32.8	11.9
Age (HOH)				
64 and under ⁽¹⁾	(54)	(29)%	37.0	_
55-74	(1,718)	(865)%	30.8	6.2
75-84	(789)	(776)%	30.8	11.4
85 and over	(144)	(141)%	34.7	14.7
Type of household				
Elderly person on own	(1,114)	(809)%	35.1	14.4
Elderly couple only	(996)	(626)%	28.6	5.0
Elderly siblings only	(54)	(41)%	7.4	_
One elderly with others	(360)	(228)%	31.1	0.3
More than one with others	(151)	(107)%	25.8	1.4
Married status (HOH)				
Married	(1,190)	(741)%	29.2	4.4
Widowed	(1,239)	(893)%	34.8	11.6
Single	(216)	(144)%	24.5	8.4
Divorced, separated	(60)	(33)%	16.7	6.6
Standard region				
North	(172)	(112)%	52.9	11.7
Yorkshire and Humberside	(268)	(188)%	41.4	12.2
Northwest	(379)	(258)%	31.7	4.8
E Midlands and E Anglia	(377)	(253)%	30.0	11.4
W Midlands	(276)	(182)%	33.0	8.3
Greater London	(350)	(230)%	24.9	2.3
Southeast and Southwest	(571)	(381)%	31.5	10.9
Retirement areas'	(312)	(207)%	15.7	3.5
Population density				
Greater London	(350)	(230)%	24.9	2.3
Metropolitan counties	(692)	(470)%	39,3	8.0
Non-metropolitan counties:	()	()		
high	(345)	(231)%	28.7	8.2
medium	(377)	(246)%	28.9	10.3
low	(941)	(634)%	29.2	9.2

⁽¹⁾ ie non elderly husbands of elderly wives

8.3 Age of dwelling

The age of dwelling is as stated by the informant.

It is perhaps surprising that there should be so little difference between the ages of dwellings occupied by households with elderly and with younger heads.

Table 8.3.1 Approximate age of dwelling (by type of head)

	Total	Total Household	
		Elderly heads	Younger
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
Date when built			
Pre 1919	33.3	33.2	34.0
1919-1939	27.8	28.0	25.6
1940-1945	3.6	3.6	3.3
1946 or later	34.7	34.5	37.2
Not stated	0.6	0.7	_
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Some groups with elderly heads differ to a marked extent from the average and those are shown below. (Percentages read across)

Table 8.3.2 Variations in ages of dwellings occupied

	weighted base	Date	when t	ouilt		
		Pre- 1919	1919 -39	1940 -45	1946 or later	N.A.
Divergent groups Greater London	(230)%	48.6	29.7	0.6	20.6	0.6
Elderly siblings	(41)%	51.9	20.4	-	27.8	-
Council tenants	(564)%	4.8	22.0	7.7	64.5	1.1
Private tenants	(316)%	75.3	18.2	1.1	5.2	0.2
Single heads	(144)%	51.4	13.4	3.2	30.1	1.9

8.4 Interviewers' assessment of structural conditions

The structural condition of a dwelling is of greater importance to its inhabitants than its actual age. Interviewers were therefore asked to assess the structural condition of the whole building outside and of the household's accommodation inside. Interviewers' estimates are almost certainly influenced by their own subjective feelings and by the standards prevailing in the neighbourhood. These factors should be borne in mind when considering the figures.

Table 8.4.1 Interviewers assessments of condition of dwellings (by

	Total	Househo	olds with:
		Elderly	Younger
All dwellings WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
(======================================	%	%	%
Interviewers' assessment of:			
(i) External condition			
Good	68.9	68.7	72.6
Fairly good	23.5	23.7	21.4
Poor	6.6	6.8	4.7
Not stated	0.9	0.9	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
(ii) Internal condition			
Good	70.9	70.4	76.3
Fairly good	22.2	22.6	17.2
Poor	5.7	5.8	5.1
Not stated	1.2	1.1	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Here we have indications, based on interviewers' assessments, that about one in twenty households with elderly members are living in dwellings in poor condition and a further one in five in dwellings whose conditions leave something to be desired.

When we compare groups with elderly heads we find that the groups which differ markedly from the average are almost, but not exactly, the same for external and internal conditions.

(a) External

Standard above average: elderly married couples (76.7 per cent good, 3.8 per cent poor); those living in the North (87.8 per cent good, 1.7 per cent poor); owner-ocupiers (74.9 per cent good, 4.1 per cent poor); council tenants (77.6 per cent good, 3.1 per cent poor).

Standard below average: heads aged 85 and over (52.1 per cent good, 11.8 per cent poor); those living in Greater London (56 per cent good, 9.1 per cent poor); private tenants (36.8 per cent good, 20.6 per cent poor); single and divorced heads (56.7 per cent good, 9.8 per cent poor).

(b) Internal

Standard above average: elderly married couples (80.4 per cent good, 2.5 per cent poor); those living in the North (86.6 per cent good, 1.7 per cent poor); owner occupiers (77.3 per cent good, 3.1 per cent poor).

Standard below average: heads aged 85 and over (52.8 per cent good, 5.6 per cent poor); those living in Greater London (63.7 per cent good, 8.6 per cent poor); elderly head with others (62.5 per cent good, 9.4 per cent poor); private tenants (47.0 per cent good, 13.9 per cent goof; lingle and divorced heads (55.8 per cent good, 11.6 per cent goof).

It is unlikely that all these differences can be accounted for by subjective factors, particularly in the case of those not relating to area.

The groups whose standard of accommodation, both internal and external, leave most to be desired are those with heads aged 85 and over and private tenants.

In considering structural condition we have looked in detail only at households with elderly heads, because the responsibility for maintenance would not usually be that of the elderly in the case of households with younger heads. For some questions, where the comfort and well-being of individuals are concerned, we shall combine the two groups for detailed analysis.

(In point of fact, the numbers of households with nonelderly heads are so small in many groups that the figures are altered only slightly, if at all).

8.5 Persons per room and per bedroom in

'In use' was defined as furnished for the purpose for which it was intended, whether or not it was actually in occupation all the time.

98.9 per cent of households with an elderly head have an occupancy of one person or less per room in use. For younger heads the figure is 90.7 per cent. The comparable figure derived from the 1971 Census for England and Wales is 94 per cent. The standard is thus lowest among households with younger heads. They are frequently those who have taken elderly people into their families and thereby rendered their living space less satisfactory.

It is noteworthy that the only groups of households (elderly and non-elderly heads combined) which differ significantly from the average are those where elderly people (one or more) are living with others, where 5.9 per cent have occupancy rates of more than one per room.

A bedroom was defined as a room used for sleeping (thus a bedsitting room is treated as a bedroom).

Bedroom occupancy for households with elderly heads is: one person or less, 88.1 per cent. For those with younger heads the figure is 50.2 per cent, but in only 11.6 per cent is there an occupancy greater than 1.5 persons. In the latter case many households consist of a younger married couple together with elderly person(s), so frequently an occupancy of 1.5 (married couple in one bedroom, elderly person in another) is adequate. In households with elderly heads which also contain younger people the level of occupancy is higher than average, but not unreasonably so in the great majority of cases.

An interesting finding is that 82.8 per cent of elderly married couples on their own have a level of occupancy of one person per bedroom or less, which indicates that they must have at least one spare bedroom, or else they do not share a bedroom.

8.6 Rooms not in use

We have shown that overcrowding is not a serious problem for most elderly heads. We also tried to assess whether many elderly people are living in accommodation which might be too big for their needs by recording living rooms and bedrooms which are not in use (ie not furnished).

13.5 per cent of households with an elderly head and 10.7 per cent of those with a younger head have bedrooms not in use. For living rooms the figures are 1.1 and 0.9 per cent respectively. There is thus not a great deal of difference between elderly heads as a whole and younger in this respect. However, the small group of households consisting of elderly siblings include 26 per cent with numsed bedrooms.

We had intended to investigate whether elderly people might like to consider letting unused rooms, possibly in return for domestic help, but we found at the pilot stage that some people were worried by the questions, possibly because they feared some form of pressure. Others were affronted. We therefore omitted the questions.

8.7 Kitchens

A kitchen is defined as a room in which cooking is done. A room which is used for sleeping as well as cooking is treated as a bedroom.

Among households with an elderly head 99.1 per cent have a separate kitchen (0.9 per cent share). For households with a younger head the figures are 99.5 per cent and 1.9 per cent respectively. The only group which differs significantly is that of households with elderly heads who live rent-free, where 88.5 per cent have a kitchen and 12.5 per cent out of these share.

8.8 Bathrooms

A bathroom is defined as a separate room with a bath in it. (It may or may not also include a lavatory). Thus, a fixed bath in the kitchen does not constitute a bathroom.

89.5 per cent of households with an elderly head have a separate bathroom (3.7 per cent shared). For households with a younger head the figures are 94.9 and 0.9 per cent and for all households 89.8 and 3.5 per cent respec

The percentages of households with elderly heads and of all households who have bathrooms differ markedly from the average in the following groups.

	Elderly heads	All households
	%	%
Above average		
Northern region	(95.9, none shared)	(95.7, none shared)
Yorkshire and		
Humberside	(95.5, 1.9 shared)	(95.8, 1.8 shared)
Council tenants	(97.4, 1.3 shared)	(97.6, 1.3 shared)
Below average		
Greater London	(78.9, 10.0 shared)	(79.2, 9.4 shared)
Private tenants	(66.0, 6.7 shared)	(65.4, 6.5 shared)
Live rent free	(79.5, 17.0 shared)	(80.2, 18.7 shared)
Single and divorced		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
heads	(80.4, 8.0 shared)	NA

(The Census definition is not the same, so comparisons would not be valid)

8.9 Lavatories

An inside lavatory is defined as one with access from indoors, not necessarily from within the household's accommodation. For example a lavatory on a landing outside a flat is treated as an inside lavatory.

Among households with an elderly head 12.8 per cent have both an inside and an outside lavatory, 75.0 per cent have an inside one only and 12.2 per cent have an outside one only. For households with a younger head the figures are: both 19.5 per cent, inside only 7.3 oper cent, outside only 7.4 per cent. The last figure is the important one and, taking households with elderly and younger heads together, it can be seen that 11.8 per cent of households containing elderly people have outside lavatories only.

There are some marked differences between groups, as shown on page 45.

The 1971 Census gives a figure of 11.7 per cent of all households in England who do not have an inside flush WC. The definition is different in that we did not ask whether the lavatory was a flush WC, so the comparison may not be exact.

What emerges very clearly from our figures is that, in this as in the case of other amenities, private tenants are

Table 8.9.1 Percentages of households in sample groups which have an outside lavatory only (Elderly heads and ALL heads shown separately)

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	Elderly heads	ALL
	%	%
All households	12.2	11.8
Age (HOH)		
64 and under	5.6	7.1
65-74	11.5	11.5
75-84	13.6	13.6
85 and over	15.3	15.3
Marital status (HOH)		
Married	10.9	NA
Widowed	12.6	NA
Single	17.1	NA
Divorced	11.7	NA
Type of household		
Elderly person alone	13.1	13.1
Elderly married couple only	11.3	11.3
Elderly siblings	16.7	16.7
One elderly with others More than one elderly with others	12.2 9.3	9.0 8.2
More than one elderly with others	9.0	0.2
Standard region	4.7	4.8
Northern Yorkshire and Humberside	13.4	12.7
	15.4	14.5
Northwest		10.8
E Midlands and E Anglia	11.1	
W Midlands	18.8	19.3
Greater London	14.6 10.2	13.7 10.0
Southeast and Southwest	8.0	7.9
'Retirement areas'	8.0	7.9
Population density Greater London	14.6	13.7
Metropolitan counties	14.7	14.0
Non-metropolitan counties:		
high	19.4	19.7
medium	6.9	6.5
low	8.9	9.0
Tenure		
Owner-occupiers	8.5	8.3
Rent from council	5.6	5.5
Rent privately	35.3	35.2
Live rent-free	9.1	8.8

very much worse off than council tenants or owner-occupiers.

It is also evident that households whose composition is such that it seems undesirable that they should have to go out of doors at all times and in all weathers to use the lavatory include appreciable percentages with an outside lavatory only. Such groups are: those whose head is aged 85 or over (44 per cent of these live alone and a further 14.4 per cent with other elderly persons only); those living alone; those consisting of elderly persons only.

3.9 per cent of households with elderly heads and 1.4 per cent of those with younger heads (3.7 per cent of all households containing elderly persons) share their lavatories with other households.

Among households with an elderly head the level of sharing is higher than average among the following:

	%
Heads aged 85 and of	ver: 6.9
Living in Greater Londo	on: 9.4
Private tenants:	9.3
Living rent-free:	15.9

Having to go outside at all times and in all weathers to the lavatory is probably the greatest hardship, but having to go up and down many stairs may also be a hardship for many elderly people. We therefore recorded the situation of the lavatory(s) and we show below the situation of the most accessible lavatory (or, if there are two, one on same level as the bedroom and one on same level as sitting room, this is shown as 'on same level as both').

The most satisfactory situation is obviously that where a lavatory is available on the same floor as bedroom and living room (either because the accommodation is all on one floor or because there are two lavatories). By this

T-bl- 0.0.2 Citaration of moneyat laundows (by type of bond

	Total	Households with:		
		Elderly head	Younger head	
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)	
Situation of nearest lavatory				
On same level as both bedroom and living room	34.9	36.0	21.9	
On same level as bedroom	37.6	36.4	53.5	
On same level as living room	9.7	9.9	7.0	
Other inside lavatory	5.9	5.5	10.2	
Outside lavatory:				
iust outside door	5.6	5.8	3.3	
elsewhere	6.3	6.4	4.2	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Table 8.9.3 Number of stairs between lavatory and living room and bedroom (by type of head)

	Total	Households wi	th:	
		Elderly heads	s Younger head	
	%	%	%	
Number of stairs/steps to living room				
None (inside lavatory on same level)	51.5	52.2	43.3	
None (outside lavatory on same level)	4.6	4.9	1.4	
1-5 steps/stairs	15.4	15.2	18.6	
6-10	1.5	1.4	2.8	
11-15	21.6	21.4	24.7	
16 and over	2.2	1.8	6.0	
Not stated	3.1	3.1	3.3	
Total Number of stairs/steps to bedroom	100.0	100.0	100.0	
None (inside lavatory on same level)	72.6	72.4	75.3	
None (outside lavatory on same level)	.5	.6	-	
1-5 steps/stairs	4.2	4.2	5.6	
6-10	1.4	1,5	.5	
11-15	17.2	17.3	15.8	
16 and over	2.5	2.5	2.8	
Not stated	1.5	1.6	_	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	

criterion some groups are well above average and some are below. As Table 8.9.2 figures show, households with a younger head are well below average, although the percentage having a lavatory on the same level as the bedroom (ie the first two lines combined) is almost the same. This is probably a consequence of the higher percentage who occupy whole houses. Other groups above and below average are as follows:

Households above average (elderly plus younger heads where applicable)

Those with head aged 85 and over (46.5 per cent); elderly persons living alone (46.5 per cent); those living in 'retirement areas' (45.9 per cent); council tenants (53.5 per cent).

Households below average

Elderly siblings (22.2 per cent); elderly living with others (21.7 per cent); those living in the Northwest (26.4 per cent); those living in the West Midlands (26.7 per cent); owner-occupiers (27.1 per cent); private tenants (23.8 per cent).

It can be calculated (from the numbers of elderly in types of households), that, in terms of individuals as against households, about one elderly person in nine has an outside lavatory only and a further one in ten has no lavatory on the same floor as either bedroom or living room.

We asked those with outside lavatories only or with no inside lavatory on the same level as the living room (bedroom) how many stairs and/or steps there were from the living room (bedroom) to the nearest lavatory.

8.10 Water supply

99.7 per cent of all households have water laid on (defined as at least one tap for sole use of the household) 98.5 per cent have a tap in the scullery: 0.9 per cent have to go to the yard. Those without water laid on are all in low population density areas.

92.5 per cent of all households have a hot water supply for their accommodation. (ie constant hot water from central heating, tank, gas or electric heater). This compares with a 1971 Census figure of 93.7 per cent of all households. The Census figure includes shared supply. We did not specifically enquire, so it is possible the survey figure includes some shared supplies. Households with an elderly head are worse off in this respect: 91.9 per cent have a hot water supply, compared with 99.5 per cent of households with a younger head.

Households which are markedly less well off in this respect are: those in Greater London (83 per cent of all households); elderly siblings (77.8 per cent); private tenants (76.6 per cent); living rent free (84.6 per cent).

6.9 per cent use kettles etc on a stove for heating water, 1.6 per cent use a boiler or copper.

8.11 Gas and electricity

68.8 per cent of households have mains gas, 99.6 per cent have electricity. Only 0.1 per cent have neither.

Variations in the extent to which households have electricity are negligible, but in the case of mains gas are quite marked, the most striking being regional. 90 per

Table 8.11.1 Fuel used for cooking (by type of head)

	Total	Households with:		
		Elderly heads	Younger heads	
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)	
	%	%	%	
Fuel used for cooking				
Mains gas	57.4	58.3	46.0	
Electricity	40.5	39.5	52.6	
Solid fuel	3.1	2.9	5.6	
Other fuels	1.5	1,5	1.0	

A few households use more than one type of fuel. 'Other fuels' are oil and calor gas.

cent of all households in Greater London have mains gas, while in 'retirement areas' only 49.7 per cent do so and in low density areas only 47.7 per cent. Only 44.7 per cent of those living rent free have gas laid on (2.3 per cent of these have neither gas nor electricity, but the base figure is small).

There are marked differences in the extent to which different fuels are used for cooking.

Among households with elderly heads the percentage who use gas exceeds the percentage using electricity in all groups except among those living in 'retirement areas', in low density areas or living rent free. Taking households with elderly and younger heads together, the groups which show marked divergences from the average are as follows:

Those living in Greater London (81.4 per cent gas, 18.1 per cent electricity); those living in retirement areas (40.3 per cent gas, 56.8 per cent electricity); low density areas (38.8 per cent gas, 56.4 per cent electricity, 6.0 per cent solid fuel, 3.6 per cent others); living rent-free (38.5 per cent gas, 52.7 per cent electricity, 5.5 per cent solid fuel, 8.8 per cent others).

Variations in the use of gas and electricity for cooking reflect fairly closely the extent to which gas is laid on. At the time of the survey gas was a cheaper fuel than electricity, so this may indicate that, where there is a choice of fuel, the cheaper is more likely to be chosen.

8.12 Heating

A number of detailed questions were asked relating to the form of heating being used in rooms, passages, etc at the time of interview. The survey took place at the coldest time of year (January and February 1976) so the findings can be regarded as showing the situation of elderly people at the time when it is most essential for them to have adequate heating.

Before considering the findings it is desirable to re-state the definitions used. A bedroom is a room used for sleeping. A bed-sitter is therefore classed as a bedroom. Likewise a room used for both sleeping and cooking is classed as a bedroom. (We have shown that over 99 per cent of all households have a separate kitchen, so the latter situation arises only rarely, except for the small group who live rent-free).

A kitchen is a room used for cooking (but not sleeping). Thus a room which is both lived in and cooked in is classed as a kitchen.

It is therefore possible for a household to have no living room or no kitchen, but not possible for it to have no bedroom.

A room in use is a room furnished for the purpose, whether or not it is actually occupied at the time.

In order to present the vast mass of data in a coherent form we have made certain decisions when presenting the information about each kind of living space. These are indicated in the relevant paragraphs. More detailed information is available if required.

(a) Bedrooms

By definition, all households must have at least one bedroom and at least one bedroom must be occupied by an elderly person or persons (with or without nonelderly).

Households which contain non-elderly persons, in addition to the bedrooms occupied by the elderly, may include bedrooms occupied entirely by non-elderly people.

A bedroom which is shared by an elderly person and a non-elderly is classed as being occupied by an elderly person.

Bedrooms with elderly occupants are a little more likely to be heated in households with a younger head, and to be centrally heated. In households with an elderly head they are a little more likely to be heated by the comparatively more expensive electric fire.

Groups where the percentage of unheated bedrooms differs to a marked extent from the average are as follows:

Above average

Private tenants, Northwest region, West Midlands region (all between 39 and 40 per cent of bedrooms unheated).

Below average

Southeast and Southwest region; households with an elderly single head; households where the head is aged 85 or over (all between 18 and 21 per cent of bedrooms unheated).

It can be calculated that roughly 30 per cent of all elderly persons have unheated bedrooms.

It is not possible to compare the heating of elderly people's bedrooms with that of non-elderly people's bedrooms. We established which bedrooms were occupied by elderly people but it was not feasible to investigate in detail the sleeping arrangements of the whole household. Therefore, other bedrooms in use' (ie furnished for the purpose) may either be occupied by non-elderly person(s) or be unoccupied at the time of the survey. A comparison of all bedrooms in use' shows that 38.3 per cent of those households consisting of elderly person(s) only are unheated, compared with 44.8 per cent of those in households consisting of both elderly and non-elderly persons with an elderly head and 30.4 per cent of those with a younger head. This appears to confirm our previous finding that heating arrangements are more satisfactory in households with younger heads.

(b) Living rooms

In dealing with the heating of bedrooms we identified separately those bedrooms occupied by the elderly. Living rooms are normally used by the whole household, so these paragraphs are based on households. Some households have no living room (ie no room used neither for cooking nor sleeping). Some have

Table 8.12.1 Means of heating elderly persons' bedrooms (by type of head)

	Total	Households wi	th:	
		Elderly head	Younger head	
Bedrooms of elderly WEIGHTED	(3,052)	(2,830)	(222)	
(unweighted figures)	(2,062)	(1,893)	(169)	
(%	%	%	
Means of heating bedroom				
Solid fuel fire	2.6	2.5	2.7	
Oil stove	3.0	3.1	2.3	
Gas fire	5.4	5.4	4.5	
Electric fire, heater	31.7	32.0	27.9	
Storage heater	5.2	5.0	7.7	
Central heating: solid fuel	3.7	3.6	5.4	
gas	13.0	12.6	18.0	
oil	4.1	4.0	4.5	
electric	2.1	2.2	0.5	
Other forms of heating	1.0	1.1	0.9	
None	29.4	29.7	25.2	

A few rooms have more than one form of heating.

Table 8.12.2 Means of heating first living room (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	h:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
	%	%	%
Means of heating living room			
Solid fuel fire	25.5	25.8	21.9
Oil stove	4.9	5.0	3.7
Gas fire	24.7	25.0	20.9
Electric fire, heater	24.7	25.2	18.1
Storage heater	6.2	5.7	12.6
Central heating: solid fuel	2.3	2.1	4.2
gas	9.9	9.9	9.3
oil	1.7	1.7	1.9
electric	2.6	2.6	2.3
Other forms of heating	0.7	0.6 ·	1.9
None	2.6	2.6	2.9
No living room	5.5	5.8	1.9

A few rooms have more than one form of heating.

more than one. To present the data for two living rooms in the same table is confusing and therefore we give the information for the first living room in detail and then deal more briefly with the second.

The comparatively few unheated living rooms may be those 'in use' (ie furnished for the purpose) but seldom or never occupied because the family use the kitchen (ie the room used for cooking) for sitting, eating, and other day-to-day activities.

Households with an elderly head are more likely to heat their living rooms by methods which are more troublesome, less efficient or more costly in the long run.

The most marked differences are between households with different forms of tenure.

Once again the relatively disadvantaged position of private tenants and those living rent free is apparent.

Council tenants are more likely than others to use more than one form of heating, possibly because they need to supplement the central heating in cold weather. Other differences worth comment are, first, that, among households with heads aged 85 and over, 13.2 per cent have no separate living room and 4.2 per cent do not heat their living rooms. Secondly, households in Greater London are much less likely than others to have a separate living room (10.8 per cent do not). Thirdly, 11.6 per cent of elderly persons living alone have no living room.

One third of all households have a second living room. The pattern of heating resembles that for the first living room except that none of these second rooms are unheated.

(c) Halls, passages

Included here are halls and passages which elderly people need to use even if outside their accommodation (eg to get to a shared lavatory). The means of heating may therefore be outside their control.

Yet again elderly private tenants are less likely than others to have heated halls or passages. 64.1 per cent have no heating (75.1 per cent have a hall and/or passage). What must also give cause for concern is

Table 8.12.3 Means of heating first living room (by tenure, clderly and younger heads combined)

	Tenure			
	Owned	Rented- council	Rented- private	Rent-free
All households WEIGHTED	(1,464)	(880)	(475)	(91)
(unweighted figures)	(997)	(594)	(326) %	(62) %
Means of heating living room	,-			
solid fuel stove	24.3	25.9	27.4	30.8
Oil stove	4.3	4.8	5.7	11.0
as fire	23.0	27.5	27.2	13.2
Electric fire, heater	26.6	23.5	21.1	24.2
torage heater	7.1	4.5	4.2	13.2
Central heating (all kinds)	14.1	27.5	4.4	8.8
Other forms of heating	0.8	0.5	-	2.2
None	1.8	1.5	5.9	4.4
No living room	1.3	8.8	5.9	20.9

Table 8 12 4 Means of heating halls, passages (by type of head

	Total	Households wit	Households with:		
		Elderly heads	Younger heads		
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)		
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)		
(unweighted rigures)	%	%	%		
Means of heating halls, passages		2.4	1.9		
Oil stove	2.3	2.4	4.7		
Gas fire	2.3	2.1			
Electric fire	5.1	5.0	6.5		
Storage heater	6.3	6.1	8.9		
Central heating (all kinds)	21.8	21.0	31.2		
Other forms of heating	0.4	0.5	-		
None	50.7	51.7	39.1		
No halls, passages	11.5	11.8	8.4		

that 61.1 per cent of households with a head aged 85 and over have no such heating (90.9 per cent have a hall and/or passage).

(d) Bathrooms

52.5 per cent of council tenants, compared with 35.6 per cent of private tenants, do not heat their bathrooms, but 34.3 per cent of the latter, compared with 2.5 per cent of the former, have no bathroom.

Once again, the relatively worse off position of households with heads aged 85 and over is apparent: 44.4

per cent do not heat their bathrooms (14.6 per cent have none).

(e) Lavatories

Among private tenants 74.8 per cent have no heating in their lavatories. Nor do 70.1 per cent of households where the head is aged 85 or over.

(f) Kitchens

We have defined a kitchen as a room in which cooking is done. We have shown that only a few households

Table 8.12.5 Means of heating bathroom (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	th:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
Means of heating bathroom	%	%	%
Oil stove	4.2	4.4	2.3
Electric fire, heater	25.4	25.2	27.9
Central heating (all kinds)	19.3	18.9	26.1
Other forms of heating	5.6	4.0	11.7
None	37.1	37.7	28.8
No bathroom	10.2	10.5	5.1

Table 8.12.6 Means of heating lavatory (by type of head)

	Total	Households with:		
		Elderly heads	Younger heads	
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)	
	%	%	%	
Means of heating lavatory(1)				
Oil stove	4.0	4.1	2.3	
lectric fire, heater	17.7	17.9	15.8	
Central heating (all kinds)	14.3	14.3	15.8	
Other forms of heating	4.0	3.7	8.8	
None	60.0	60.0	57.3	

⁽¹⁾ The table relates to the first lavatory. Of those with a second lavatory 68.2 per cent do not heat it.

Table 8.12.7 Additional means of heating in kitchen (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	h:	
		Elderly heads	Younger heads	
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)	
	%	%	%	
Additional form of heating				
Central heating	19.1	18.1	22.3	
Electric fire, heater	15.3	15.1	18.6	
Storage heater	1.9	2.0	1.4	
Gas fire	3.0	2.9	3.7	
Solid fuel fire	5.9	5.7	8.8	
Oil stove	6.7	6.8	4.7	
Other forms of heating	0.5	0.4	0.9	
No additional heating	48.4	48.9	41.9	
No separate kitchen	0.9	1.0	0.5	

Some households use more than one form.

use solid fuel for cooking and gas and electric stoves do not give out heat when not in use. We therefore asked what form of heating, if any, there is in the kitchen. Even if the kitchen is not used for sitting in (as in many households it undoubtedly is) the housewife needs to spend an appreciable amount of time in it and its warmth is therefore important.

Among private tenants 59.8 per cent do not heat their kitchens and among households with a head aged 85 or over 55.7 per cent do not.

(g) Solid fuel storage

Before considering the possible difficulties entailed in fetching and carrying solid fuel from its storage place to fires, boilers and other appliances, it is useful to look at the types of households which use solid fuel.

39.4 per cent of all households use solid fuel. There is little difference between households with elderly and younger heads but the following groups differ considerably from the average.

Above average: Northern region (49.7 per cent); living rent-free (59.4 per cent).

Below average: Greater London (25.4 per cent); metropolitan counties (28.0 per cent).

In order to show what proportion of elderly persons' households may have difficulty with carrying solid fuel the table below is based on all households.

A solid fuel store just outside the door of the dwelling may be even more convenient from the point of view of cleanliness than one inside the dwelling. However, although a majority of solid fuel users have a solid fuel store which is reasonably convenient, about nine per cent of all elderly householders have to go over ten feet outside their doors in all weathers to fetch solid fuel. The problem of stairs is less widespread, possibly because living rooms and boilers tend to be on the

ground floor and, as we have shown, solid fuel fires are comparatively seldom used in bedrooms.

No groups are outstandingly better or worse off as far as the accessibility of their solid fuel storage is concerned.

(h) General comment on heating

We have shown elsewhere that 7.6 per cent of elderly persons are not warm enough all the time in bed, 8.5 per cent in the living room and 12.0 per cent in the kitchen, and that many of those who are not warm enough blame it on inadequate heating facilities, often arising from financial stringency. The foregoing paragraphs shed some light on the adequacy or otherwise of the heating arrangements. The points which seem of major importance are, firstly, the high proportions of elderly people who have no means of heating their bedrooms and of those who have to use the comparatively costly electric fire. Secondly, a majority of halls, passages and lavatories, and an appreciable proportion of bathrooms are not heated. Thus, many elderly people have to go from a warm to a cold atmosphere repeatedly. Thirdly, only about half the kitchens have heating apart from cooking stoves. In most of these respects private tenants are worse off than others and in many respects households with heads aged 85 and over are worse off. Finally, although only about two-fifths of households use solid fuel, an appreciable minority of households have fuel stores in relatively inaccessible places (we have shown elsewhere that six per cent of elderly persons cannot carry fuel).

8.13 Domestic equipment

We asked whether the household possessed each item on a 'prompt list' (as in table 8.13.1) 'Possession' includes owning on hire purchase or hiring, and implies that the appliance is in working order.

Table 8.12.8 Situation of household's solid fuel store (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	:h:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2.920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
(anweighted rigares)	%	%	%
Situation of solid fuel store			
No solid fuel	60.6	60.5	61.9
Inside dwelling	4.4	4.5	4.2
Outside dwelling: close by door	21.3	21.3	21.4
less than 10ft away	3.6	3.6	2.8
11-25ft away	5.2	5.4	2.4
More than 25ft	3.7	3.6	5.2
Not stated	1.2	1.1	2.2
Number of steps/stairs between fuel store and	d furthest appliance		
None	12.0	12.4	7.9
One-five	21.3	21.2	21.8
six or more	3.5	3.3	4.6
Not stated	2.6	2.6	3.8
Total	100.0	100,0	100.0

The much higher level of ownership among households with younger heads is very obvious. The only item for which the extent of ownership is lower among younger heads is the non-electric carpet sweeper, which is a more old-fashioned piece of equipment.

It is noteworthy that in Greater London only 34.5 per cent of all households have a washing machine. In no other area does the percentage fall below 47 per cent and in Yorkshire and Humberside it reaches 77 per cent.

Possibly the ubiquitous launderette in the London area has some bearing on this.

The possession of adequate household equipment is so important from the point of view of enabling elderly people to live comfortably that it is worth showing in detail the different possessions of households with men and women heads, with elderly heads of different ages, and those consisting of one elderly person living alone.

Households with women heads are more likely than those with men heads to lack equipment.

The decrease in ownership with age is very apparent. Households whose heads are non-elderly husbands of elderly wives exhibit a higher level of ownership than households with younger heads, possibly because the latter have had less time in which to accumulate possessions.

It seems that the groups who can be considered most in need of adequate equipment (the very old; those living alone) are less likely than others to possess it. Whether the younger groups when they grow older will be able to retain and maintain their present equipment it is impossible to say.

Households where the head is working have a much higher level of possession of almost all items than have others.

Table 8.13.1 Household equipment possessed (by type of head)

	Total	Households with	th:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(215)
	%	%	(164)
Household equipment possessed	70	7/0	%
Vacuum cleaner	87.9	87.4	04.0
Non-electric carpet sweeper	69.1	69.5	94.0
Washing machine	55.1	52.9	64.7
Spin/tumble drier	46.2	44.9	83.3
Electric iron	94.1		61.9
Refrigerator	76.3	93.9	97.2
Record player	26.3	74.8	95.3
Radio: portable		23.8	57.2
non portable	72.7	71.7	85.6
Television: portable	20.1	19.7	24.2
non-portable	6.0	5.2	16.3
Radiogram	89.3	89.1	92.1
Radiogram	16.8	15.5	34.0
None of these	0.2	0.2	

Table 8.13.2 Household equipment possessed by households with elderly heads (by sex and age of head; elderly percent alone)

	Sex of head		Age of he	of head			
	Man	Woman	64 &(1) under	65-74	75-84	85 & over	person alone
Households with elderly heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,509) (956)	(1,196) (855)	(54) (29) %	(1,718) (865) %	(789) (776) %	(144) (141)	(1,144) (809)
Household equipment possessed		,,,	70	70	70	%	%
Vacuum cleaner	91.0	82.9	94.4	89.5	84.3	77.0	00.0
Non-electric carpet sweeper	65.7	74.2	66.7	69.5	70.2	77.8 66.0	80.2
Washing machine	60.8	42.8	74.1	59.2	41.2	32.6	69.0
Spin/tumble drier	50.2	38.2	72.2	49.1	36.9		37.4
Electric iron	94.8	92.7	100.0	84.3	91.3	28.5	33.5
Refrigerator	79.3	69.1	98.2	78.9	68.1	81.2	89.2
Record player	28.6	17.8	57.4	28.2	13.8	52.8	64.2
Radio: portable	74.2	68.6	77.8	74.2	67.2	13.2	11.2
non-portable	18.0	22.0	9.3	18.8	22.8	64.6	65.4
elevision: portable	6.2	3.9	9.3	5.1	5.3	18.1 4.2	22.0
non-portable	90.8	87.0	87.0	90.7	78.4		3.2
Radiogram	19.6	10.4	37.0	17.7	10.9	80.6 6.3	83.7 6.6
None of these	0.1	0.3	_	0.1	0.2	0.7	0.3

⁽¹⁾ Non-elderly husbands of elderly wives. Included although number small because many differences are significant and they emphasise the trend in many instances.

Table 8.14.1 Number of stairs between bedroom, living room and telephone (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	th:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
No phone	56.3	58.6	27.9
Number of stairs from bedroom			
None	18.7	18.2	26.5
1-10	1.8	2.0	0.5
11 or more	21.6	19.8	43.8
Not stated	1.5	1.5	1.4
Number of stairs from living room			
None	39.6	37.4	66.5
1-10	1.4	1.2	2.8
11 or more	1.5	1.5	1.4
Not stated	1.2	1.2	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

8.14 Telephones

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43.7 per cent of all households have a phone for their use, although in 1.7 per cent of households it is situated outside the household accommodation (eg in a hall or landing). For households with an elderly head the figures are 39.3 per cent and 1.9 per cent, for those with a vounger head 72.1 per cent and nil respectively.

In Greater London 53.6 per cent of all households have a telephone and in 'retirement areas' 51.8 per cent do so.

Groups who are more likely to need a telephone for emergencies or social contacts are less likely to have one. Only 35.4 per cent of elderly persons living alone and the same percentage of households with a head aged 85 and over have telephones.

In this respect council tenants are worse off than others. The percentages of all households with different tenure who have telephones are: owner-occupiers 59.2 per cent; council tenants 22.7 per cent; private tenants 32.0 per cent; rent-free 48.4 per cent (in the case of the lastnamed 12.1 per cent are outside the accommodation). Elsewhere we have dealt with individuals' use of the telephone and any difficulties they may have. Here we established the number of stairs an elderly person would have to go up or down from his or her bedroom and from the living room to the telephone.

Telephones are most often situated with regard to the convenience of the living room rather than that of the elderly person's bedroom. This is broadly true of all groups. While being without a telephone is much more serious, people whose telephone is relatively inaccessible from the bedroom are likely to have difficulty in summoning help in an emergency. The provision of an extension to the bedroom would be a great help in such cases.

8.15 Cars

We compare below the extent of car ownership by households with figures derived from the 1971 Census for England.

Table 8.15.1 Number of cars in household compared with 1971 Census data (by type of head)

	Present surve	y	Census 1971				
	Total	Households with:		All households	One person aged 65	Two persons Head aged	
		Elderly heads	Younger heads		or over	65 or over	
All households WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(2,920) (1,975)	(2,705) (1,811)	(215) (164) %	%	%	%	
Number of cars in household None	68.5	71.7	27.4	48.2	93.6	70.1	
One	27.7	25.7	53.0	42.7	6.3	28.1	
Two	3.3	2.1	18.6	7.9	0.1	1.7	
Three or more	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.1		0.1	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

The survey figure for one-person households without a car is 90.3 per cent, which agrees very well with the Census figure, having regard to the increase in car ownership between 1971 and 1976. Our figure for two-person households (62.3 per cent without a car) is not exactly comparable with the Census figure because some two-person households in the survey have a head aged less than 65.

Owner-occupiers are much more likely than tenants to have a car or cars in the household. 40.6 per cent of elderly owners and 80.1 per cent of younger owners (55.2 per cent of all owners) have cars, compared with 17.9 per cent of all tenants. (This finding is confirmed by the Census figures: 66.4 per cent of all owners have a car or cars in the household, compared with 37.2 per cent of all tenants).

0.5 per cent of households have a special car for a disabled person. (We have dealt in detail with the use made of cars by elderly people in the chapter relating to transport).

8.16 Aids for people with physical difficulties

We asked whether there are in the dwelling of a 'prompt' list (as below) of aids for people with physical difficulties. (Individual signals for help were not prompted).

The necessity for aids depends to great extent on the physical condition of the people in the household. We have shown that there is an association of greater infirmity with increasing age and that women are more likely than men to have physical difficulties. We there-

fore show the analysis by sex and age of head of household for elderly heads.

We have shown small percentages because these provide negative information, in that they show how few households possess these aids. For example, although we shall show later that 2.5 per cent of households include a wheelchair user among their members, only 0.4 per cent have ramps for a wheelchair.

The sex and age of the head of household show that there must be at least one person of that sex and age in the household and are therefore a good guide to the use of aids by men and by women and by people of different ages. However, men are less likely than women to be living alone and therefore there is more chance that any given aid will be used by another person. This emphasises the finding that virtually every aid is more likely to be found in households with a woman head. (We have shown elsewhere that elderly women are more likely than men to be suffering from some infirmity). Women are more likely than men to have arrangements for summoning help if needed. The increase in the use of most individual aids with increasing age is apparent. However, the percentage who have none is slightly higher among households with heads aged 85 and over than among those with heads aged 75-84. This can be attributed to the smaller percentage of mentions of signals for assistance made by the former group. It must give cause for concern that only about one-quarter of this group have any arrangements for summoning help in an emergency. We have shown that nearly half this group (heads 85 and over) consists of elderly people alone (mainly women) and about ten per cent consist entirely of people 85 and over.

Table 8.16.1 Aids for people with physical difficulties in households with olderly heads (by say and one of head)

	Sex of head			Age of head		
	Total	Man	Woman	74 & under(1)	75-84	85 & over
Households with elderly heads						
WEIGHTED	(2,705)	(1,509)	(1,196)	(1,772)	(789)	(144)
(unweighted figures)	(1,811)	(956)	(855)	(894)	(776)	(141)
	%	%	%	%	%	(141) %
Aids possessed		,,,	70	70	70	70
Additional rail on stairs	6.9	6.0	8.0	6.7	6.8	9.0
Rail in lavatory	3.1	2.2	4.3	2.5	3.8	6.3
Rail in bathroom	14.0	11.8	16.7	11.2	18.6	22.2
Bath seat (sunk)	2.3	1.9	2.9	1.2	4.0	
Bath seat (across bath)	5.4	5.4	5.4	4.9	8.1	6.3 12.5
Ramps for wheelchair	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	12.5
Hoists	0.4	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.5	_
Raised lavatory seat	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.7
Non-slip bath mat	28.1	25.8	31.0	24.7	34.6	34.7
Way of signalling for help:		22.0	51.0	24.7	34.0	34.7
bell, buzzer, bleeper	6.0	3.8	8.7	4.3	8.7	11.1
telephone	8.3	7.8	8.9	9.0	7.2	6.3
cnock on walls	6.4	4.2	9.0	6.0	7.9	2.8
put something in window	2.6	1.7	3.8	2.1	3,4	4.9
light signal	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.2	1.8	0.7
shout to neighbours	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.7
neighbour keeps an eye	0.4	0.1	0.8	0.1	1.0	0.7
other signals	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.5	1.4	0.7
Other aids	2.3	1.9	2.8	1.9	3.3	1.4
None	48.4	53.0	42.5	53.4	38.5	40,3

⁽¹⁾ includes heads under 65 with elderly wives

Table 8.16.2 Aids for people with physical difficulties in household (by type of household)

	Type of hou	sehold				
	Total	Elderly person alone	Elderly married couple	Elderly siblings only	Others—one elderly person(1)	Others—more than one elderly(1)
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(1,144)	(996)	(54)	(556)	(170)
(unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(809)	(626)	(41)	(379)	(120)
(%	%	%	%	%	%
Physical aids						
Additional rail on stairs	7.1	7.5	5.0	3.7	7.9	14.7
Rail in lavatory	3.2	4.9	1.8	1.9	2.2	3.5
Rail in bathroom	13.9	17.8	11.8	13.0	10.3	11.2
Bath seat (sunk)	2.4	3.1	1.3	1.9	2.1	5.3
Bath seat (across bath)	5.5	5.7	5.0	5.6	5.6	7.0
Ramps for wheelchair	0.4	0.4	0.6	_	_	-
Hoists	0.4	0.7	0.1	_	0.5	-
Raised lavatory seat	0.9	0.9	1.0	-	0.9	1.2
Non-slip bath mat	28.7	27.3	26.8	35.2	30.9	40.0
Way of signalling for help						
bell, buzzer, bleeper	6.2	10.1	3.1	1.9	3.8	2.4
telephone	8.4	8.2	7.9	11.1	9.2	8.8
bang on walls	6.1	9.7	4.2	_	4.5	0.6
put something in window	2.5	4.6	1.2	_	1.1	1.2
light signal	0.7	1.1	0.6		_	_
shout to neighbours	1.1	1.3	0.8	_	1.3	0.6
neighbour keeps an eye	0.4	0.7	0.1	_	0.4	
other signals for help	0.8	1.2	0.5	-	0.7	0.6
Other aids	2.3	3.1	1.4	3.7	2.0	3.5
None	47.8	43.7	53.6	48.2	47.7	42.4

⁽¹⁾ include both elderly and younger heads

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From the purely statistical viewpoint it might be thought that households containing more than one elderly person would be more likely than those with only one to possess each aid, simply because there is more than one person who might need it. However, the oldest age-group is most likely to need aids and this group includes the highest proportion of those living alone. Additionally, if there are other people in the household it is possible for personal assistance to be given, which may make the contrivance less necessary. The above analysis by type of household shows the extent to which the tendencies counterbalance each other (households with younger heads are included).

For many items the extent of use is higher in one-person households, this being particularly so in the case of signals for assistance. However, even in this group about two thirds have no means of summoning help.

Elderly council tenants are more likely to have almost every type of aid. About a quarter, it will be remembered, live in special old people's dwellings and possibly for this reason the proportion who have means of summoning help is not much above average. However, 14.8 per cent have a bell or buzzer, which greatly exceeds the percentage in any other group.

8.17 Aids to movement

The aids we have already described are such as can be used by all persons who need to do so in a household. We next asked a question about a 'prompt' list (as below) of individual aids: 'Does anyone in the household use any of these aids to movement'.

Very few households include more than one user of a particular kind of aid (one per cent in the case of walking

Table 8.17.1 Individual aids to movement in households with elderly heads (by sex and age of head)

	Total	Sex of head					
		Man	Woman	74 & under	75-84	85 & over	
Households with elderly heads							
WEIGHTED	(2,705)	(1,509	(1,196)	(1,772) -	(789)	(144)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,811)	(956)	(855)	(894)	(776)	(141)	
(witweighted figures)	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Aids used by at least one member							
None	79.3	79.4	79.0	85.2	69.3	61.1	
Wheelchair	2.6	3.4	1.5	2.1	3.4	4.2	
Two-hand walking frame	2.0	1.6	2.7	1.2	3.5	4.9	
Supportive walking stick, one-handed	B10						
walking aid	18.6	18.3	18.9	13.5	27.1	34.0	
Crutches	1.5	2.0	0.9	1.1	2.1	2.8	

sticks is the highest). We take all users into account later when we describe the people who use each aid.

The increase already shown in the extent of use of aids to movement with increasing age of elderly heads is not unexpected. What is of particular interest is that households with younger heads include an appreciably higher percentage of users of each aid than do older heads. This indicates that elderly people with more severe handicaps tend to move to the households of younger members of their family. This kind of support made by younger

people undoubtedly makes a valuable contribution towards the care of elderly people.

The percentage of elderly people living alone whose handicaps are severe enough to entail the use of these aids is comparatively low, but even simple domestic tasks must present problems for some of them.

The numbers of users of each aid are small, and it would be illogical to combine them, so the figures in Tables 8.17.3, 8.17.4 and 8.17.5 should be treated with caution.

Table 8.17.2 Individual aids to movement in all households (by type of household; households with younger heads shown separately)

	Total	Household typ	e				
		Households with younger heads	Elderly person alone	Elderly married couple	Elderly siblings only	Others—one elderly person(1)	Others—more than one elderly ⁽¹⁾
All households WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(2,920) (1,975)	(215) (164) %	(1,144) (809)	(996) (626)	(54) (41)	(556) (379)	(170) (120)
Aids used by at least one member None	78.7	71.2	79.7	% 80.3	79.6	% 75.9	%
Wheelchair Two-hand walking frame	2.8	6.0 5.6	1.0	4.4 1.7	=	4.0 3.8	2.9 4.7
Supportive stick, one-handed walking aid	18.9	23.7	19.0	17.2	18.6	19.8	25.3
Crutches	1.4	4.7	1.3	1.8	1.9	2,2	2.9

⁽¹⁾ include both elderly and younger heads

Table 8.17.3 Sex and age of users of individual aids to movement

		Aid to move	ment		
		Wheelchair	Two- handed frame	Supportive stick, etc	Crutche
Sex and age of use	mc.	%	%	%	%
Non-elderly perso		9.4	5.9	4.6	12.1
Elderly: Men:	65-74	22.4	7.2	17.6	30.3
	75-84	10.6	10.1	15.7	3.0
	85 & over	1.2	2.9	2.6	3.0
	Total men	34.2	20.2	35.9	36.3
Women:	65-74	16,5	27.5	21.8	27.3
	75-84	29.4	33.3	28.6	21.2
	85 & over	10.6	13.0	9.2	3.0
	Total women	56.5	73.8	59.6	51.5
	Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 8.17.4 Percentage of users in each sex and age group of elderly people

	Grand total	Men				Women			
	iotai	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
Users of:	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Wheelchair	2.0	1.9	1.7	2.3	1.8	2.1	1.0	3.5	5.8
Two-handed frame One-handed aid	1.7 14.2	0.9 13.4	0.5	1.8	3.6	2.2	1.3	3.3	5.8
Crutches	0.7	0.8	9.2 0.9	23.4 0.3	27.3 1.8	14.7 0.7	8.5 0.6	23.3 1.0	34.4 0.6

Table 8.17.5 Sex and age of all users of appliances (by type of head)

		All households	Households wi	th:
			Elderly head	Younger head
		%	%	%
Sex and age of use Non-elderly perso		5.3	4.0	16.7
Elderly: men:	65-74	18.5	20.1	4.5
	75-84	14.6	15.7	4.5
	85 & over	2.7	2.7	3.0
	Total men	35.8	38.5	12.0
women:	65-74	20.7	22.3	6.1
	75-84	29.2	27.0	48.5
	85 and over	9.0	8.1	16.7
	Total women	58.9	57.4	71.3
	Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Although women form the majority of users of each aid, this is mainly because of their preponderance in the elderly population, particularly the 85 and over agegroup. Apart from this age-group women are not a great deal more likely than men to use each aid.

It is informative to compare the sex and age composition of all users of aids in households with elderly and younger heads.

Not unexpectedly, users in the households of younger heads include a higher proportion of non-elderly people, but they also include a much higher proportion of older elderly women.

This provides further evidence of the burden shouldered by some younger people when they take elderly persons into their households.

8.18 Accessibility of dwelling from outside

Having dealt with a number of aspects of the dwelling which have a bearing on the comfort and mobility of the members of the household, we next investigated the accessibility of the dwelling itself. For all households living in flats, maisonnettes or rooms the floor level of the dwelling was recorded (the lowest floor if the dwelling occupied more than one).

Nearly four-fifths of households live in bungalows or whole houses, so the question did not apply. A further 9.4 per cent live in ground floor accommodation, 7.2 per cent on the first floor and 3.1 per cent on a higher level. 4.3 per cent of those living on the first floor and 59.3 per cent of those on a higher level have a lift. It can thus be said that, for 7.7 per cent of households containing elderly people, access to the dwelling involves climbing stairs.

9 Employment

9.1 Introduction

This section deals with the present and past employment of elderly people and their attitudes to work and to retirement from work.

The tremendous change in the pattern of women's employment which has occurred since the beginning of the second world war probably had little effect on the older age-groups. Women aged 85 and over would have been at least 50 years old at the outbreak of war and would therefore not have been conscripted or directed into employment. Those aged 65–74 comprise the first group of elderly women to have been affected by wartime direction of labour and by the postwar tendency for married women to remain at work until the birth of their first child and to return to work subsequently. Any forecast of future tendencies in elderly women's employment should be based on the work histories of the 65–74 age-group rather than those of elderly women as a whole.

In this section, for purposes of comparison, we have mainly used the 1971 Census (100 per cent and 10 per cent sample). There are no more recent sources which give comparative material in sufficient detail to be useful.

9.2 Elderly workers

(a) Demographic characteristics

As would be expected, the percentage who are working decreases sharply with increasing age. Two-thirds of the men and nearly two-thirds of the women who are working are under 70 years old.

The Census of 1971 gives the following percentages of men and women in employment (England only).

		Aged 65-69	Aged 70 & over
		%	%
In employment:	men	30.3	10.8
	women	12.7	2.9

These are a little higher than the figures for the present survey. It seems likely that this is reasonable, in the light of the changed economic climate.

The General Household Survey (GHS) for 1976 investigated employment status. Figures derived therefrom for those working or seeking work (England only) compare as follows:

	%	%
Men aged 65-74: GHS	19.1; present survey:	20.3
Men aged 75 & over:	6.2;	4.3
Women aged 65-74: G	HS 9.2; present surve	y 8.0

Women aged 75 & over: 1.2; 1.3

The GHS covered the whole of 1976 and the approach was not quite the same, so the two sets of figures are in

reasonable agreement.

Regional differences are not very great, except that, in the case of men, the difference between Greater London and elsewhere is striking: 16.2 per cent of Londoners are working full-time and 9.8 per cent part-time, compared with 4.2 and 10.3 per cent respectively.

In the case of women regional differences are not, in general, significant. It can tentatively be said that the percentage who are still working is lower in the North of England than elsewhere. This is an area where economic activity among women is traditionally low.

The percentage of married men who are working (17.4 per cent) is higher than the percentage of non-married (ie single, widowed, divorced) (10.9 per cent).

Table 9.2.1 Employment status of elderly workers (by age for men and women separately)

	Men					Women					
	Total	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 & over	Total	65-69	70-74	75-79	80 & over	
All persons WEIGHTED unweighted figures)	(1,540) (994)	(644) (327) %	(457) (238) %	(265) (262) %	(174) (167) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(765) (398) %	(705) (391)	(432) (426)	(427) (413)	
Employment status	70	70	70	70	70	%	%	%	%	%	
Vorking full-time(1)	5.5	9.8	3.9	1.5		1.2	2,9	0.6	0.2		
Vorking part-time(2)	10.3	15.1	10.1	3.8	2.9	4.4	8.4	4.0	1.9	0.5	
lot working	84.2	75.2	86.0	94.7	97.1	94.5	88,8	95.5	97.9	99.5	
`otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ More than 30 hours a week.

⁽²⁾ Up to and including 30 hours a week.

Table 9.2.2 Comparison of socio-economic groups of jobs done by elderly workers with those of jobs done by all workers as given in the 1971 Census for England and Wales

	Elderly		Census (1	0%)
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)	(All ages)	
unweighted figures)	(132)	(74)		
	%	%	%	%
Socio-economic group (SEG)				
Employers, managers	11.1	5.4	11.7	4.6
Professional workers	5.3	_	5.1	0.9
Intermediate non-manual	4.1	12.4	5.6	11.0
Junior non-manual	18.1	15.5	12.0	37.4
Personal service workers	0.4	24.0	1.0	12.5
Foremen (manual)	2.5	_	3.6	0.6
Skilled manual	13.6	3.9	29.8	6.0
Semi-skilled manual	15.6	4.7	12.8	12.5
Unskilled manual	18.5	25.6	7.5	7.1
Own account (non-professional)	2.1	6.2	4.7	2.0
Farmers (owners and managers)	4.9	1.6	1.5	0.4
Agricultural workers	3.7	_	1.4	0.6
Armed forces	_	_	1.5	0.1
Inadequately described	_	0.8	1.7	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 9.2.3 Comparison of the standard industrial classification of jobs of elderly workers with those of all workers derived from the 1971 Census (figures for England and Wales)

	Elderly		Census (1	0%)
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)	(All ages)	
unweighted figures)	(132)	(74)		
ann - igni- a i igni- i)	%	%	%	%
tandard industrial classification (SIC)				
Agriculture	8.6	1.6	3.3	1.2
Aining and quarrying		_	2.5	0.2
Annufacturing(1)	24.7	13.2	38.3	28.0
Construction	10.7	1.6	10.3	1.1
ias, electricity, water	10.7	1.6	2.0	0.7
ransport, communication	2.5	1.6	8.6	3.0
ransport, communication	16.5	11.6	9.7	17.8
	4.1	3.9	3.2	5.7
nsurance, banking, finance Professional and scientific services	11.1	23.3	6.9	21.1
	15.6	37.2	7.2	14.8
Miscellaneous services	5.4	2.3	7.4	5.3
Public administration and defence	5.4	2.3	7.4	3.3
nadequately described	0.8	2.3	0.5	1.1
Fotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Figures for individual industries are mostly too small to be worth showing individually.

Among women the percentage of single women (9.6 per cent) is higher than the percentage of those who are or have been married (5.1 per cent).

Men heads of households are more likely than nonheads to be working (16.0 compared with 11.8 per cent).

(b) Jobs done by elderly workers

The Census figures for persons aged 65 and over are not shown above because they do not differ significantly from the Survey findings, thus providing further evidence that the jobs done by elderly workers are, on average, of a lower SEG than those done by

workers as a whole. The difference is particularly marked in the case of elderly women, half of whom work in personal service or unskilled manual occupations, compared with one-fifth of all women.

The Census does not give SIC by age for England and Wales.

To a great extent the industry in which people work is conditioned by the area in which they live, so small differences could be explained by the fact that a sample survey does not cover all areas. However, the differences between the survey and Census figures are too large to be accounted for in this way, particularly

Table 9.2.4 Comparison of hours worked by elderly workers with those of all workers derived from The New Earnings Survey 1975(1) (by sex)

	Present s	urvey	New Earnings Survey 1975			
	Men	Women		Men	Women	
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)	All workers	(82,904)	(48,908)	
(unweighted figures)	(132)	(74)				
	%	%		%	%	
Hours worked						
8 or less	6.2	27.1		0.3	1.1	
9-16	23.9	20.2		0.5	4.3	
17-24	25.1	26.4		1.0	14.0	
25-30	8.6	3.9		2.0	12.6	
31-40	18.5	10.1		47.8	54.8	
41-45	5.8	1.6		15.2	4.1	
46 or more	9.1	7.8		25.3	1.7	
Not stated	2.9	3.1		7.9	7.5	
Total	100.0	100.0	•	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ Tables 159 and 160 (these relate to Great Britain)

since many differences are in industries which are common to almost all areas.

The smaller percentages of elderly workers employed in manufacturing industries and the higher percentage in miscellaneous services are especially noteworthy.

(c) Hours worked

The New Earnings Survey of 1975 is closer in time to the date of the survey than is the 1971 Census. We therefore use it for purposes of comparison with the hours worked by elderly workers.

Even allowing for sampling errors it is evident that the hours worked by elderly workers are much lower on average than those of workers as a whole. Very few of the male working population as a whole work partitude (ie, not more than 30 hours a week) whereas roughly two-thirds of working elderly men do so. Among women the corresponding figures are roughly 30 and 80 per cent respectively.

However, it is worth noting that 15 per cent of elderly men workers and 9 per cent of elderly women workers are working more than 40 hours a week.

It is also worth noting that the percentages of elderly part-timers (ie those working not more than 30 hours a week) are much higher in the survey than in the Census: 63.7 per cent gainst 48.9 per cent for elderly men workers; 77.4 per cent against 63.5 per cent for elderly women workers). These differences are much greater than are likely to be accounted for by sampling errors or by regional variations. We have already pointed out that the percentage of workers is lower among the elderly in the survey than in the Census and it seems possible that a number of factors may have contributed to the changes. Higher unemployment, higher pensions, changes in earnings limits and in rates of pay can each have had an effect.

(d) The journey to work

There are no up to date comparable figures available, but such evidence as exists indicates that elderly workers' journeys are shorter on average than those of workers as a whole.

Table 9.2.5 Means of transport to work and time taken for journey (by sex)

(by sex)		
	Men	Women
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)
(unweighted figures)	(132)	(74)
	%	%
Means of transport		
Walk	16.5	38.0
Cycle	5.8	3.9
Private car	37.9	20.2
Bus	17.7	21.7
Underground	1.2	_
Train	4.1	0.8
Other means, varies, not stated	6.5	1.5
Works at home	10.3	14.0
Total	100.0	100.0
Time taken		
7 minutes or less	21.0	29.5
8—12 minutes	21.4	18.6
13—22 minutes	23.0	16.3
23—32 minutes	8.2	11.6
33 minutes or more	11.5	7.0
Not stated	4.5	3.1
Works at home	10.3	14.0
Total	100.0	100.0

(e) Job satisfaction

93.8 per cent of men and all the women say that on the whole they enjoy their work.

Table 9.2.6 Reasons for enjoying work (by sex)

	Men	Women
Workers who enjoy work		
WEIGHTED	(228)	(129)
(unweighted figures)	(123)	(74)
	%	%
Reasons		
It interests me, occupies my time	63.2	48.1
Enjoy the company at work	23.7	49,6
Enjoy the money it brings me	7.5	11.6
Other reasons	13.6	8.5
No reason given(1)	16.2	9.3

⁽¹⁾Includes proxy interviews.

Men seem more likely to enjoy the work itself, women the company at work. Although the percentage of either who mention money is not very high, the question was worded 'Why do you enjoy your work?' and this form of words does not seem to call for an answer in financial terms. It would therefore be unwise to assume that elderly workers are not interested in financial rewards.

(f) How long elderly workers expect to continue

When asked how long they hoped to go on working, elderly workers were unable to be very explicit and answered in terms of physical fitness or willingness of their employer to retain their services.

Table 9.2.7 How long elderly workers expect to continue (by sex)

	Men	Women
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)
(unweighted figures)	(132)	(74) %
How long will continue		
As long as I'm fit	44.9	53.5
As long as I'm allowed to		
by employer	15.2	14.0
Other answers, vague	23.0	18.6
Don't know, not stated(1)	16.9	13.9
Total	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾Includes proxy interviews.

It seems that a majority of elderly workers want to go on working as long as they can.

(g) Change of working hours at retirement age

Workers were asked whether they are doing the same job, ie the same work for the same employer, as they were when they reached retirement age, and, if so, whether they are working the same hours.

Table 9.2.8 Change of job at retirement (by sex)

	Men	Women
Elderly workers WEIGHTED	(243)	(129)
(unweighted figures)	(132)	(74)
	%	%
Workers who:		
Are doing same job AND workin	g	
same hours	25.5	51.2
Are doing same but working		
different hours	22.6	20.2
Are doing a different job	51.9	28.7(1)
Total	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾Includes 3.1 per cent who were not working at age 60 but have started since.

It is very interesting that the extent of job changing at retirement age is much greater among men than among women.

The numbers who have changed hours in the same job are too small for detailed analysis, but some general statements can be made.

Four-fifths of the men and all the women who have changed their hours are now working part-time (30 hours or less per week). No man who changed hours is working more than 45 hours.

No-one changed his or her hours in an upward direction and many of the reductions are considerable: for example, one-third of the men have reduced their hours from over 45 to not more than 30 a week.

(h) Change of job at retirement age

The numbers who changed jobs at retirement age are also too small for detailed analysis.

Nearly half the men who changed jobs were previously in skilled manual occupations; nearly half the women were in junior managerial or intermediate non-manual occupations.

Nearly half the men were previously in manufacturing industries. Nearly half the women were in professional and scientific services and one-third in miscellaneous services. It is perhaps surprising that no women and only three men who changed jobs were in public administration previously.

(i) Reason for changing job at retirement age

Three-fifths of the men who changed jobs and nearly half the women did so because of forced retirement.

9.3 Summary of past and present economic activity

Taking into account those who are still working, over two-fifths of men have continued to work beyond the State retirement age. The percentage increases sharply with increasing age (36.2 per cent, 52.4 per cent and 60.0 per cent in the three age-groups). This indicates a definite tendency towards earlier retirement, which is further manifested by the much higher percentage in the 65–74 age-group who gave up work before the State retirement age (25.5 per cent compared with 11.7 per cent and 14.6 per cent respectively).

The change in women's employment patterns during and since the second world war is clearly shown by the table. The percentage of the 65–74 age-group who have never worked is much lower than for older women. (A survey(1) carried out in 1965 found that 2.4 per cent of women aged 16–64 had never done paid work and that for those aged 55–64 the figure was 6.2 per cent). The percentage who gave up work before the age of 30 is also lower in this group.

It was not possible in an already lengthy interview to investigate the working history of elderly women, so we cannot say how many of those who were working at the age of 60 had previously given up work for a time and then returned. The figures show, however, that of those who were working up to age 60 a majority continued to

⁽¹⁾ A survey of women's employment HMSO 1968.

Table 9.3.1 Past and present economic activity of all elderly people (by age within sex)

	Men – age				Women - age			
	Total	65- 74	75 – 84	85 & over	Total	65 – 74	75- 84	85 & over
All persons WEIGHTED	(1,540)	(1,101)		(55)	(2,329)	(1,470)	(705)	(154
(unweighted figures)	(994)	(565)		(54)	(1,628)	(789)	(688)	(151
Elderly persons who:	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Have never worked					10.0			
THE HOLD WOLKED	_	_			12.8	10.4	15.5	23.4
Gave up work at age:								
19 and under	_	_	_	_	1.4	1.0	2.1	1.9
20-24	-		_	_	9.2	7.6	11.9	13.0
25-29	_	_	_	_	6.6	6.1	7.8	5.2
30-39	_	_	_	_	5.8	5.7	5.4	7.8
40-49	0.5	0.5	0.5		5.5	4.9	7.1	3.9
50-54	0.5	0.5	0.5		5.0	5.3	4.8	2.6
55-59	2.7	2.7	2.1	5.5	6.9	8.8	4.3	1.3
60	4.0	4.2	3.1	5.5	12.4	13.1	11.3	11.0
61 62	0.7	0.8	0.5	-	2.1	2.8	0.9	1.3
63	2.9	3.2	2.3	-	3.0	4.0	1.6	0.6
55 54	3.8	4.8	1.3	1.8	3.0	3.8	1.7	1.3
55	6.8	8.9	1.6	1.8	3.1	4.1	1.7	0.6
56	36.9 4.5	38.1	35.4	23.6	4.9	5.4	3.8	5.2
57	4.5	4.5 3.8	4.4	5.5	1.8	2.3	1.0	
58	4.0	2.8	6.5	3.6 7.3	1.5	1.9	1.0	0.6
59	2.8	2.7	3.1	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.6	0.6
70	3.2	1.5	6.0	18.2	1.1 2.3	1.0	1.6 4.0	-
1 or over	6.4	0.6	20.9	21.8	3.6	0.5	8.7	5.8
Not stated	0.3	0.2	0.5	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.9	11.0 2.6
Are still working	15.8	20.3	4.7	1.8	5.5	8.0	1.6	_
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Individual years are shown between 60 and 70 because of the current interest in retirement ages.

work beyond that age (33.4 per cent compared with 12.4 per cent who retired). The percentage is appreciably higher in the 65–74 age-group (36.6 per cent, compared with 29.2 per cent and 27.0 per cent).

On the evidence of the present survey the tendency towards earlier retirement by men is not matched by a similar tendency on the part of women. This is confirmed by evidence from other sources.

9.4 Reasons for giving up work

As would be expected, the reasons for giving up work differ between men and women and between people giving up at different ages, as the following figures show:

Table 9.4.1 Reasons for giving up work (by age of giving up within sex

	Men - age of giving up			Women - age of giving up					
	Total(1)	64 & under	65 & over	Total(1)	39 & under	40 – 49	50- 59	60- 64	65 & over
Former workers							-	-	Over
WEIGHTED	(1,297)	(334)	(958)	(1,902)	(535)	(128)	(277)	(552)	(392)
(unweighted figures)	(862)	(194)	(665)	(1,332)	(395)	(94)	(179)	(359)	(291)
_	%	%	%	%	96	%	%	%	%
Reasons									
Health reasons	27.7	49.1	20.4	23.0	3.2	31.3	39.4	24.8	34.2
Compulsory retire-									
ment	34.3	11.4	42.5	7.9	_	_	1.4	17.6	12.5
Redundancy	8.9	21.6	4.6	6.9	1.1	6.2	5.8	10.1	11.7
Posts on a									
Fed up with work	11.9	3.0	15.0	12.6	2.1	12.5	13.4	18.5	18.6
0									
On marriage	_	_	_	22.2	71.4	14.8	6.1	0.2	0.8
To have baby	_			2.9	10.5	_	-	_	_
To look after spouse	4.5	3.3	4.9	5.9	2.1	7.0	9.4	8.5	4.8
To look after others	0.7	1.5	0.4	6.7	4.9	18.7	14.1	5.1	2.8
Other reasons(2)	11.6								
Julei reasons(=)	11.6	7.8	13.0	13.0	3.5	13.4	16.6	16.5	19.3
iot stated(3)	4.6	4.5							
	4.0	4.5	4.7	5.7	6.2	11.7	2.9	3.7	3.1

(1) Informants who did not state the age they last worked are included in the totals.

(2) Other reasons (none of which was given by more than three per cent) include: no need to work longer; left area; spouse retired, etc.

(3) Includes proxies.

For women who gave up work before the age of 40, marriage, and to a less extent, maternity, outweigh all other reasons. This group is left out of account in the comments on the differences between the sexes.

For both men and women ill health is the principal reason for giving up work before the statutory age, but it is a more important reason for women than for men after retirement age.

Compulsory retirement, even at or after the respective statutory ages, is a far more frequent reason for men than for women to give up work.

Redundancy is more likely to have affected men below retirement age and women over that age.

Being fed up with work is more often mentioned by both men and women over retirement age, but appreciable proportions of women who gave up work in the 40–49 and 50–59 age-groups mention it. It is, of course, still easier for a woman to give up a job which she dislikes and be supported by her husband than vice versa.

Among women who gave up work between the ages of 40 and 59, the need to look after people other than their husbands comes second only to ill health as a reason for giving up work. The people were most often sick or infirm relatives and this survey therefore provides further evidence that the burden of caring for sick or elderly relatives most often falls on women and makes it impossible for them to work.

9.5 Desire to go on working

Many of the reasons for giving up work do not make it clear whether the individual would have preferred to go on working. All non-workers who had ever worked were therefore asked if they would have liked to go on working. The percentages who say they would are as follows:

Men who gave up at age:	%	Women who ga	ve up at age: %
64 and under	61.1	39 and under	15.0
65 and over	40.4	40-49	40.6
All men	45.6	50-59	52.0
		60-64	39.1
		65 and over	55.1
		All women	37.7

Thus, a substantial minority of both sexes would have liked to continue beyond the age at which they gave up. If we exclude the group of women who gave up before the age of 40, the percentage who would have liked to continue among the remainder is 45.9 per cent, which is virtually the same as among men.

Perhaps surprisingly, there are only negligible differences between the socio-economic groups and industry of the jobs being done by those who would have liked to continue and those who would not. This is true of both men and women. Possibly this shows that these people like working as such rather than a particular job.

9.6 Socio-economic group of last job

Those who gave up work before the age of 40 (of whom the great majority are women) have been excluded from

Table 9.6.1 Socio-economic group of jobs done at time of finally giving up work (by age of giving up within sex)

	Men -	age last	worked	Women - age last worked				
	Total	64 & under	65 & over	Total	40- 49	50- 59	60- 64	65 & over
Non-workers who worked till								
40 or later WEIGHTED	(1,291)		(958)	(1,349)	(128)	(277)	(552)	(392)
(unweighted figures)	(858)		(665)	(923)	(94)	(179)	(359)	(291)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Socio-economic group								
Employers and managers	11.1	13.5	10.3	5.2	3.9	5.0	6.2	4.6
Professional workers	4.2	3.3	4.5	0.4	_	_	0.7	0.3
Intermediate non-manual	3.8	5.7	3.1	7.2	5.5	9.0	7.2	6.4
Junior non-manual	11.6	9.6	12.3	19.1	18.0	17.3	16.7	24.0
Personal service	1.0	1.2	0.9	17.5	23.4	14.4	15.9	19.9
Foremen - manual	6.4	6.9	6.2	1.0	_	_	1.8	0.8
Skilled manual	26.6	26.7	26.6	7.9	12.5	5.8	10.3	4.3
Semi-skilled manual	17.7	18.6	17.4	16.7	13.3	22.0	18.1	12.0
Jnskilled manual	9.7	7.8	10.3	17.7	13.3	17.3	16.3	21.4
Own account (non-professional)	. 3.2	4.2	2.8	3.3	1.6	2.9	3.4	4.1
Farmers (managers & own								
account)	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.8	2.2	0.6	0.8
Agricultural workers	2.2	0.3	2.8	1.8	_	2.9	2.0	1.3
Armed forces	0.2	_	0.3	0.1	1.6	_	_	_
nadequately described,								
not stated	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.2	6.3	1.1	0.8	0.3
Fotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

the remaining questions on employment. It was felt that their work would have little or no relevance to their present circumstances and that their recollections would be likely to be inaccurate.

The ages of giving up work cannot be taken as representing a time-series, because of the wide age-range of the elderly people. For example, a woman now aged 80 who gave up work when she was 60 would have given up at the same date as a woman now aged 70 who gave up when she was 50. The value of the above figures therefore lies in internal between-age comparisons and in a comparison with the jobs being done by elderly people who are still working. (See table 9.2.2)

There is not a great deal of difference between the jobs which were done by men who gave up at different ages. However, compared with elderly men who are still working, both retired groups' jobs were, on average, of a higher SEG level. The differences between the percentages of skilled and unskilled manual jobs are particularly marked.

Differences between the jobs of women who gave up work at different ages are more marked but do not follow an entirely consistent pattern. For many married women there is not the same compelling economic necessity to continue working in an unsatisfactory job, but on the other hand a woman, married or otherwise, who wishes to go on working has usually less choice than a man of the job she can do. Therefore there is not a consistent fall in job-level with age of giving up. The jobs that were done by women who gave up at age 65 or later are not very dissimilar to those being done by elderly women who are still working.

Socio-economic group is not a highly sensitive instrument for measuring the nature of the jobs done and it is possible that there are differences which are obscured by this method of classification. Those differences which are revealed are real differences, so it can be said that the foregoing figures possibly underestimate the extent of the differences between jobs done by people retiring at different ages.

9.7 Industry of last job

As is the case with socio-economic group the differences between the industries of the jobs done by men who gave up work at different ages are not great, except in the case of mining (this is of topical interest). Compared with elderly men who are still working (who are all over 65 years old) men who gave up work at 65 or later include higher percentages in manufacturing, transport and public administration and lower percentages in distribution, professional and scientific services and in miscellaneous services.

There is a pronounced drop in the percentage of women last employed in manufacturing industries among women who worked after the age of 64. This is accompanied by an increase in the percentage employed in miscellaneous services. Compared with elderly women who are still working (who, of course, are all over 65 years old), those who gave up work at 65 or over include higher percentages in manufacturing and distribution and lower percentages in professional and scientific services and in miscellaneous services.

Table 9.7.1 Standard industrial classification of jobs done at time of finally giving up work (by age of giving up within sex)

	Men — age last worked			Women — age last worked					
	Total	64 & under	65 & over	Total	40- 49	50- 59	60- 64	65 & over	
Non-workers who worked till								_	
40 or later WEIGHTED	(1,291)	(222)	(958)	(1.240)	(100)	(0.00)			
(unweighted figures)	(858)			(1,349)		(277)	(552)	(392)	
(unweighted lightes)	%	%	(665)	(923)	(94) %	(179)	(359)	(291)	
Standard industrial	70	70	70	%	%	%	%	%	
classification									
Agriculture	3.3	2.7	3.4	2.2	0.0				
Mining and quarrying	4.5	10.2	2.5		0.8	5.1	1.6	1.5	
Manufacturing industries	34.7	31.8	35.7	29.2	34.4				
Construction	10.9	9.0	11.6	1.0	34.4	31.4	32.8 1.3	20.9	
Gas, water, electricity	1.5	2.1	1.3	0.9	_	0.4	0.5	1.8	
Transport & communication	9.4	11.7	8.6	2.9	1.6	2.5	3.6	2.0	
Distributive trades	10.0	7.8	10.8	16.2	12.5	15.2	15.9		
Insurance, banking, etc	3.6	5.1	3.1	1.6	2.3	1.1	0.7	18.4	
Professional & scientific	5.0	3.6	5.5	17.8	10.2	22.7	17.2	2.8 17.6	
Miscellaneous services	6.4	6.6	6.4	23.0	26.6	19.5	19.9		
Public administration &	0.1	0.0	0.4	23.0	20.0	19.3	19.9	28.6	
defence	8.8	7.5	9.3	3.5	4.7	1.1	4.5	3.3	
				010			7.5	5.5	
Inadequately described,									
not stated	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	7.0	1.1	1.8	0.5	
Total	100.0	100,0	100.0	100,0	100,0	100.0	100,0	100.0	

9.8 Change of occupation before final retirement

Elderly people who had worked till age 40 or after were asked whether their last job was the one they had been doing for most of their working lives (a job change can of course mean a change of the kind of work done or a change of employer or both). 68.9 per cent of men and 66.8 per cent of women say that it was.

The numbers in individual socio-economic groups are for the most part too small for meaningful comparisons. In the following we have therefore shown only those groups or combinations where the numbers warrant it. The percentages are based on individuals whose last job came into these groups and show those whose last job was the same which they had been doing for most of their working lives.

Men	%	Women	%
Managerial & professional	79,3	Managerial & professional	84.2
Intermediate & junior		Intermediate non-manual	86.6
non-manual	55.3	Junior non-manual	63.8
Foremen & skilled manual	82.6	Foremen & skilled manual	78.2
Semi-skilled manual	61.6	Semi-skilled manual	65.3
Unskilled manual	36.8	Unskilled manual	59.8
		Personal service	61.0

It appears that people in jobs of lower SEG are less likely to have been doing these jobs for most of their working lives. Further light is shed by comparing the figures in a different way, that is, by comparing the socio-economic groups of the jobs done by those who continued in the job they had been doing for most of their working lives, the last jobs done by those who had changed and the jobs done for most of their working lives by those who had changed.

Evidently most of the changes which have been made have been from higher SEG to lower SEG, particularly from skilled manual to unskilled manual, and, in the case of men, from management level to lower level. Numbers are too small for individual analysis, but the following figures for larger groups provide some confirmation of this hypothesis.

There is evidence of movement into lower SEG jobs but there is also evidence that many job movements take place within the same socio-economic group (in fact 21, 9) per cent of all job changes by men and 28.7 per cent of those made by women were within the same socio-economic group). We have already said that socio-economic group is not a very sensitive instrument, but it is doubtful whether any existing classification system could define some changes as upwards or downwards (for example, from bus driver to shop assistant). There is bound to be an element of the subjective feelings of the worker who makes the change. We deal with this in a later paragraph.

Table 9.8.1 Comparison of socio-economic groups of jobs done by those who did not change and of jobs done immediately before retirement and for most of working life by those who changed (by

	Men			Women		
	Non- changers	Changers		Non-	Changers	
		Last	Former job	changers	Last	Former
Non-workers who had worked till 40 or later WEIGHTED ⁽¹⁾ (unweighted figures)	(898) (584)	(392)	(392)	(901) (626)	(422) (278)	(422) (278)
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Socio-economic group Employers & managers	12.9	7.1	9,7	6.5	2.6	6.4
Professional workers	4.7	2.8	1.0	0.6	2.0	0.4
Intermediate non-manual	4.2	2.6	3.3	9.3	3.1	4.7
Junior non-manual	8.2	19.6	6.1	18.2	21.8	22.7
Personal service	0.6	2.0	1.5	16.0	21.3	18.5
Foremen-manual	8.5	1.5	3.3	1.0	0.9	_
Skilled manual	31.0	17.1	39.0	9.3	5.0	13.3
Semi-skilled manual	15.8	22.4	15.6	16.3	18.2	23.2
Unskilled manual	5.2	20.2	6.1	15.9	21.6	5.9
Own account (non-professional)	3.3	3.1	1.0	3.6	3.1	0.9
Farmers (managers & own account)	1.8	0.8	1.3	1.1	0.7	0.5
Agricultural workers	2.8	0.8	2.8	1.9	1.7	2.4
Armed forces	0.3	-	6.6	-	_	_
Inadequately described, not stated	0.6	_	2.5	0.3	_	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Those who do not say whether or not they had changed (including proxies) are excluded.

Table 9.8.2 Socio-economic group of last job of those who have changed jobs (by job for most of working life within sex)

	Men Job for most of working lives			Women Job for most of working lives			
	Non- manual	Skilled ⁽¹⁾ manual	Semi & unskilled manual	Non- manual	Personal service	Skilled ⁽¹⁾ manual	Semi & unskilled manual
Job-changers WEIGHTED	(79)	(166)	(85)	(143)	(78)	(56)	(123)
(unweighted figures)	(54)	(117)	(58)	(95)	(54)	(40)	(74)
	%	%	%	%	96	%	%
SEG of last job							
Managerial & professional	16.5	6.6	2.4	6.3	_	3.6	mes
Intermediate non-manual	5.1		1.2	8.4	_	Peter	0.8
Junior non-manual	41.8	15.7	10.6	41.3	16.7	10.7	8.9
Personal service	-	1.8	3.5	14.7	32.1	21.4	21.1
Foremen & skilled manual	6.3	27.1	22.4	2.1	3.9	14.3	5.7
Semi-skilled manual	11.4	28.3	21.2	11.2	11.5	17.9	30.9
Unskilled manual	8.9	18.7	35.3	7.7	29.5	32.1	28.5
Own account	10.1	1.2	2.4	4.9	2.6	_	2.4
Farmers & agricultural	_	0.6	1.2	3.5	3.9	Parks.	1.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Foremen and supervisors included.

First we deal briefly with movements between industries.

In the following figures we include only those industries in which the numbers of people who worked as their last job are sufficient to make the analyses meaningful.

The figures below show the percentages of those whose job was in these industries who had been doing that job for most of their working lives.

Men	%	Women	%
Mining	62.1	Manufacturing industries	73.1
Manufacturing industries	73.0	Distribution	67.0
Construction	72.0	Professional & scientific	68.7
Transport	81.8	Miscellaneous services	61.0
Distribution	69.0	Public administration	74.5
Professional & scientific	64.6		
Miscellaneous services	50.6		
Public administration	52.6		

Standard industrial classification does not lend itself to the same detailed analysis as has been given for socioeconomic group. We have therefore summarised the more marked changes which occurred when people changed jobs.

Mining

Men 43.6 per cent of those who had worked in this industry for most of their lives went to different jobs in the industry. 20.5 per cent went into manufacturing industries, 35.9 per cent into other industries. No job changers entered the industry.

Manufacturing industries

Men 15.6 per cent of those who had worked in manufacturing industries took different jobs in exactly the same industry, 33.0 per cent went into other manu-

facturing industries and 51.4 per cent into other industries. 24.4 per cent of job changers from other industries moved into a manufacturing industry.

Women 9.7 per cent of those who had worked in manufacturing industries took different jobs in exactly the same industry, 27.6 per cent went into other manufacturing industries. 62.8 per cent went into other industries. 15.2 per cent of job changers from other industries entered a manufacturing industry.

Transport and communication

Men 15.4 per cent of those who had worked in this industry took another job in the same industry; 23.1 per cent went into manufacturing industries and 61.5 per cent into other industries.

Distributive trades

Women 30.3 per cent of those who had worked in this industry took another job in the same industry. 19.1 per cent went into manufacturing industries and 50.6 per cent went into other industries.

Miscellaneous services

Women 38.1 per cent of those who had worked in this industry took another job in the same industry. 12.4 per cent went into manufacturing industries and 49.5 per cent into other industries.

Public administration

Men 24.5 per cent of those who had worked in this industry took another job in the same industry. 17.0 per cent went into manufacturing industries and 58.4 per cent into other industries.

Table 9.8.3 Industries of jobs of non-changers and of jobs before and after changing

	Men			Women			
	Non-	Changers		Non- changers	Changers		
	changers	Before	After	changers	Before	After	
Non-workers who had worked till age	(000)	(000)	(202)	(001)	(422)	(422)	
40 or later WEIGHTED	(890)	(392)	(392)	(901)	(422)	(422)	
(unweighted figures)	(584)	(268)	(268)	(626)	(278)	(278)	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Principal industries							
Mining	3.9	9.9	5.6		-	_	
Manufacturing	36.7	27.8	30.9	32.0	34.4	24.2	
Construction	11.5	8.9	9.9	0.8	0.9	1.7	
Transport	11.1	13.3	5.4	2.8	4.0	3.3	
Distribution	10.0	11.2	10.2	16.2	21.1	16.6	
Professional and scientific	4.7	*****	5.5	18.3	7.8	17.3	
Miscellaneous services	4.7	4.8	10.2	21.0	23.0	28.2	
Public administration	6.7	13.5	13.3	3.9	0.7	2.8	
Other industries, not stated	10.7	10.6	9.0	5.0	8.1	5.9	
Other modernes, and stated							
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

The above summarises the percentages of non-changers and changers who were working in the principal industries. It should be remembered that those in the 'before' and 'after' columns may either have different jobs in the same industry or have moved into a different industry.

9.9 Differences between men's and women's patterns of work

Before considering the reasons why people gave up the jobs they had done for most of their working lives and their attitudes to continuing with them, it needs to be emphasised that we may be dealing with different sets of circumstances in the case of men and women.

For most men (except the few who retired from the forces and similar occupations with low retirement ages) the job change is likely to be one that takes place at or about the statutory retirement age, with a comparatively short period between jobs.

Among women, there may be much greater diversity. We excluded women who had finally given up work before the age of 40 but time did not permit a detailed investigation of the working history of those who continued after that date. (We have shown, however, that the majority of those who worked till 40 or later did not finally give up work until age 60 or later, although there may have been times in between when some were not working).

9.10 Reasons for giving up usual job

A comparison of the main reasons advanced by men and by women for giving up the job they had done for most of their working lives shows that circumstances were different in many cases.

Table 9.10.1 Reasons for giving up job done for most of working lives (by sex)

	Men	Women
Job changers WEIGHTED	(392)	(422)
(unweighted figures)	(268)	(278)
Reasons for leaving 'usual' job	,,,	
Compulsory retirement	24.7	2.6
Redundancy	14.3	14.2
Wanted a change	16.6	14.5
III health	22.4	10.2
Marriage		24.6
To look after spouse	1.8	5.7
To look after others	0.3	8.5
Left area	2.6	6.2
War service	4.1	1.2
Other reasons, not stated	13.2	12.3

For men, compulsion to leave their 'usual' jobs is more likely than for women to be that exerted by the employer (unless, of course, the marriage bar still existed and forced some women to leave). For women the compulsion is more likely to be of a domestic nature. Perhaps surprisingly ill health is a more important reason for men than for women.

9.11 Desire to continue in 'usual' job

55.6 per cent of men and 51.4 per cent of women say they would have liked to continue in their 'usual' jobs. In the light of the diversity of reasons given for leaving their 'usual' jobs, the most that can be said is that in some cases compulsory retirement (or its concomitant redundancy) prevents workers from carrying on a job for which they are experienced and which they enjoy. The marriage bar is now illegal, so this will no longer compel women to leave a job if they do not wish to do so.

10.1 Introduction

Any assessment of the nature and amount of services needed to help elderly people to continue to lead satisfactory lives within the community must take into account their own ability to move about and perform the personal and domestic tasks which are essential for their well-being. It is also necessary to take into account the extent to which help can be provided within their own households or by relatives and friends from outside, and the changes which are likely to take place as time goes on

We therefore investigated the ability of elderly people to move about and to perform essential domestic tasks, with or without assistance. In this section we relate this ability to domestic and other circumstances.

Although the percentage of people with different infirmities increases with age, there are some with disabilities in the younger age groups. On the other hand some older people are still very well able to care for themselves. Interviewers who worked on this survey reported that many elderly people (mainly, but by no means entirely, in the younger age groups) did not think of themselves as 'old' or in need of special care. When told that their answers were needed for comparative purposes they were happy to reply to questions which at

first seemed irrelevant in their own cases. Perhaps it is just as well that many of these did not seem to realise that, in the nature of things, quite a few of those who survive will, unfortunately, encounter difficulties in their later years.

10.2 Mobility

In assessing informants' ability to get up and to go out, account was taken both of the situation at the time of interview and of the usual situation. For example, a person confined to bed with influenza who normally went out is shown as 'bedfast temporarily, usually goes out' in the first set of figures below.

It is only to be expected that the incidence of permenent loss of mobility would increase with increasing age. Presumably the increase in temporary loss occurs because an ailment which a younger person can cope with makes it necessary for an older person to take special care (interviewing took place during the coldest time of year, which lends credence to this hypothesis).

The figure for bedfast or housebound (4.5 per cent) is lower than was found in some earlier surveys.

Table 10.2.1 Personal mobility of elderly people (by sex and age)

	Total	Sex		Age				
		Men	Women	65 – 69	70 – 74	75 – 79	80- 84	85 & over
Elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,409) (725) %	(1,162) (629) %	(697) (688) %	(392) (375) %	(209) (205) %
Mobility Bedfast permanently	0.3	0.1	0.4	_	_	0.4	1.0	1.9
Bedfast temporarily, usually housebound Bedfast temporarily, usually	0.2	0.1	0.3	-	-	0.6	0.8	1.0
goes out	0.3	-	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5
Housebound permanently Housebound temporarily,	4.0	3.3	4.4	1.1	2.5	4.9	9.7	17.7
usually goes out	2.6	2.1	2.8	1.3	1.6	4.3	4.6	6.2
Usually goes out with assistance	7.6	3.2	10.5	3.2	6.6	9.6	12.5	26.8
Usually goes out	85.1	91.2	81.1	94.2	88.9	79.9	71.2	45.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Summary	0.2		0.4			0.4		1.0
Bedfast permanently Housebound permanently	0.3 4.2	0.1 3.4	0.4 4.7	1.1	2.5	0.4 5.5	1.0 10.5	1.9 18.7
Goes out	95.5	96.5	94.8	98.9	97.5	94.1	88.5	79.4

Social Welfare for the Elderly⁽¹⁾, a survey carried out in nine areas in 1965, found between eight and 11 per cent in the areas covered. A survey of the general population⁽²⁾ carried out in 1966 found 7.6 per cent of housewives aged 65 and over who were housebound or hedfast.

There are a number of possible explanations for the difference. Differences in question wording can affect the answers given. In both Social Welfare for the Elderly and the present survey no precise question wording was given, but interviewers were given similar guidelines in establishing mobility, with the exception that the present survey included specifically the words 'goes out out and also included an additional pre-code 'usually goes out with assistance' which covered, inter alia, those who only go out when taken by car. In the 1966 survey the question was worded 'ls she/he in good health and usually able to get out on his/her own?' It seems likely that some of the people classed in the present survey as 'usually goes out with assistance' might well have been classed as 'housebound' in either of the earlier surveys.

The growth in car ownership during the past ten years has also probably enabled some elderly people to go out who would otherwise have been housebound.

It should be emphasised that in the present survey we were anxious not to exclude people who could go out, albeit with difficulty, from subsequent questions relating to visiting and social activities outside the home. We feel, therefore, that our figure of 4.5 per cent represents really immobile people.

It appears that up to the age of 84 the great majority of elderly people living at home have no problems about going out of doors but that after that age there is, for many, a marked deterioration, which shows most clearly in the need for assistance when going out.

(1) Social Welfare for the Elderly by Amelia I Harris (HMSO 1968)

(2) The Home Help Service in England and Wales by Audrey Hunt (HMSO 1970). The higher proportion of women than of men with some loss of mobility can in part be explained by their higher average age. That this is not the whole explanation is shown by comparing men and women in the same aggroups.

Table 10.2.2 Percentage of men and of women with loss of mobility in each age group

	Age		
	65-74	75-84	85 and over
	%	%	%
Men who arc:			
Bedfast permanently	_	_	1.8
Housebound permanently	1.5	7.3	14.5
Need help going out	2.3	4.2	16.4
Women who are:			
Bedfast permanently	_	1.0	1.9
Housebound permanently	2.0	7.3	18.8
Need help going out	6.6	14.2	30.5

Among those living at home women in any given aggroup are more likely than men to suffer some loss of mobility. Possibly this shows that women can continue to live at home with disabilities that might cause men to go into institutions.

There are some important differences between the levels of mobility of people living in different kinds of household. Because the permanent condition is the one which affects an individual's capacity and because the smallness of some figures occasionally obscures the overall position, we show mobility in the summarised form.

Bedfast and housebound elderly persons who live alone must give most cause for concern, but those who live with an elderly spouse or sibling may be in difficulties in the future. The higher percentages of less mobile elderly people who live in households which contain non-elderly people are probably a consequence of the need for such people to live with others who can provide help.

Table 10.2.3 Mobility (by size and type of household

	Weighted	Un-	Mobility					
	totals	weighted	Bedfast	House- bound	Goes out with help	Goes out on own		
Number of persons in household								
One	(1,144)	(809) %	0.1	3.8	6.8	89.2 = 100.0		
Two	(2,120)	(1,406) %	0.2	4.0	6.8	88.9		
Three	(371)	(256) %	0.8	5.4	11.1	82.7		
Four or more	(234)	(151) %	0.9	6.4	12.8	79.9		
Type of household								
One elderly person	(1,144)	(809) %	0.1	3.8	6.8	89.2		
Married couple only(1)	(1,705)	(1,099) %	0.1	3.4	5.5	91.0		
Siblings only(1)	(108)	(82) %	0.9	0.9	6.5	91.7		
Others with one elderly					45.0	76.6		
only	(556)	(379) %	1.1	7.0	15.3	/6.0		
Others with more than						05.0		
one elderly	(356)	(253) %	0.3	5.9	8.4	85.3		

⁽¹⁾ At least one elderly.

A housewife is defined as the person responsible for the domestic arrangements (and may be either a man or woman). All those who live alone are of necessity housewives and in many other households an elderly person is the housewife. Among elderly housewives 0.1 per cent

are bedfast, three per cent are housebound and 7.1 per cent require assistance when going out. Lack of mobility undoubtedly poses additional problems for those with domestic responsibilities.

Table 10.2.4 Mobility (by standard region)

	Weighted bases	Unweighted figures	Mobility				
	Dases	ngures	Bedfast or house- bound	Able to go out with assistance	Able to go out on own		
Region							
Northern	(248)	(164) %	5.6	9.7	84.3 = 100		
Yorkshire & Humberside	(380)	(268) %	5.8	8.9	85.3		
Northwest	(565)	(383) %	7.3	6.4	86.3		
East Midlands & East Anglia	(522)	(356) %	4.4	6.5	89.0		
West Midlands	(385)	(257) %	2.4	9.9	87.8		
Greater London	(472)	(313) %	5.5	6.1	88.4		
Southeast & Southwest	(839)	(575) %	3.0	8.0	89.0		
'Retirement areas'	(458)	(306) %	2.8	7.0	90.2		
All regions	(3,869)	(2,622) %	4.5	7.6	87.9		

Table 10.2.5 Characteristics of elderly persons with different mobility

		Total	Mobility		
			Bedfast or house- bound	Goes out with help	Goes out on own
	persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(174)	(294)	(3,401)
(unweig	hted figures)	(2,622)	(150)	(231)	(2,241)
Age with	hin sex	%	%	%	%
Men:	65-74	28.5	9.2	8.5	31.2
	75-84	9.9	16.1	5.4	10.0
	85 and over	1.4	5.2	3.1	1.1
	Total men	39.8	30.5	17.0	42.3
Women:					
women.	75-84	38.0	16.7	33.0	39.5
	85 and over	18.2	33.3	34.0	16.1
	85 and over	4.0	19.5	16.0	2.1
	Total women	60.2	69.5	83.0	57.7
	Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Detailed	age group				
	65-69	36.4	9.2	15.3	39.6
	70-74	30.0	16.7	26.2	31.0
	75-79	18.0	23.6	22.8	17.3
	80-84	10.1	25.9	16.7	8.8
	85 and over	5.4	24.7	19.0	3.2
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Type of I	household				-
	One elderly person(1)	29.6	25.9	26.5	30.0
	Married couple only	44.1	34.5	32.0	45.6
	Siblings only ⁽¹⁾	2.8	1.1	2.4	2.9
	Others with one elderly	14.4	25.9	28.9	12.5
	Others with more than one elderly	9.2	12.6	10.2	8.9
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Househol					
	Housewife	60.3	41.4	56.5	61.6
	Non-housewife	39.7	58.6	43.5	38.4
	Total	100,0	100.0	100,0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ At least one elderly.

If the first three regions, which comprise the North of England, are grouped together, the percentage who are bedfast or housebound (6.5 per cent) is just significantly higher than the percentage elsewhere (3.6 per cent).

Differences between areas of high and low population density are not significant, except that the percentage of bedfast and housebound in areas with less than one person per acre is slightly lower than elsewhere (3.1 per cent, compared with 5.3 per cent).

Perhaps the greatest cause for concern is that one quarter of those unable to go out, even with assistance, live on their own and are therefore dependent on outsiders for everything that needs to be obtained away from their homes.

10.3 Cause of loss of mobility

Table 10.3.1 Cause of being bedfast or housebound

	Total
Bedfast and housebound persons WEIGHTED	(174)
(unweighted figure)	(150)
(unweighted ligate)	%
Description of illness or disability(1)	
Arthritis, rheumatism	36.2
Pulmonary conditions	17.2
Strokes, paralysis	14.9
Blindness, failing sight	14.4
Circulatory conditions	13.8
Cardiac conditions, blood pressure	13.2
Effects of accidents	9.8
Nervous conditions	4.6
Other specific illnesses or conditions	29.9
· ·	
Old age, other vague descriptions	6.9

(Some people named more than one complaint).

The number of bedfast is too small for separate analysis so the above gives the answers to the questions 'What keeps you in bedfin the house?' It should be borne in mind that these are descriptions given by informants themselves (or, occasionally, by a proxy answering on their behalf). They are not to be regarded as accurate medical diagnoses (indeed, here and elsewhere it seems likely that some sufferers may be unaware of the actual cause of the symptoms from which they suffer)

10.4 Length of time housebound

42.5 per cent of the bedfast and housebound had not been out of the house for over a year (18.9 per cent for over three years). It seems unlikely that many of these will ever become fairly mobile again.

10.5 Health of the more mobile

Elderly people who are neither bedfast nor housebound were asked:

'Do you have any illness or disability which handicaps you or interferes with your activities in any way?'

If they had, they were asked the nature of the disability⁽¹⁾ and the way in which it handicapped them.

We showed earlier that comparing age-group with agegroup, women are more likely than men to suffer some limitation of mobility. The figures below appear at first sight to contradict this. However, they are based on persons who are usually able to go out and if we summarise the situation of all informants we obtain the following:

Table 10.5.1 Nature of illness or disability suffered by more mobile elderly people (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men -	Age			Women	– Age		
	total	Total	65- 74	75- 84	85 & over	Total	65- 74	75 – 84	85 & over
Non-housebound or						(2.200)	(1.441)	(647)	(120)
bedfast WEIGHTED	(3,695)				(46)	(2,208)	(1,441)		(117)
(unweighted figures)	(2,472)	(950)	(557)	(348)	(45)	(1,522)	(773) %	(632)	%
	%	%	%	%	%	%	70	70	70
Nature of disability									21.7
None	44.0	44.8	48.1	37.4	23.9	43.5	49.3	32.9	31.7
					10.7	23.1	20.3	27.4	34.2
Arthritis, rheumatism	19.4	13.7	12.6	16.3	19.6			16.1	10.0
Cardiac conditions	12.6	13.5	12.5	15.2	23.9	12.0	10.3	7.0	10.0
Pulmonary conditions	9.4	13.7	14.1	12.9	10.9	6.4	5.9		17.5
Blindness, failing sight	6.4	5.8	4.5	8.4	15.2	6.9	4.0	11.3	
Effects of accidents	4.8	5.0	4.6	6.5	4.3	4.6	4.2	5.4	5.8
Circulatory conditions	4.1	3.7	3.0	4.5	13.0	4.4	4.4	4.6	3.3
Strokes, paralysis	2.5	2.6	2.2	4.2	_	2.4	2.0	3.4	1.7
Nervous conditions	1.9	0.6	0.6	0.8	_	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.5
Other specific illnesses	20.0	19.7	17.5	23.6	41.3	20.2	17.7	25.2	23.3
Old age, vague answers	1.8	1.4	1.0	2.0	6.5	2.0	1.5	3.2	2.5

⁽¹⁾ It should be noted that the word 'disability' here and elsewhere is based on the answers to specific questions which called for a selfdiagnosis by the informant or a proxy. We would not therefore be justified in using the terminology 'ampairment, disability or handicap' as this would imply greater precision than is warrantee.

Table 10.5.2 Percentage of men and of women in each age-group who have some disability or none

	Total	Age		
		65- 74	75- 84	85 & over
	%	%	%	%
Men who		10		70
Are bedfast or housebound	3.4	1.5	7.3	16.4
Have some disability	53.3	51.1	58.1	63.6
Have none	43.2	47.4	34.6	20.0
Women who				
Are bedfast or housebound	5.2	2.0	8.2	22.1
Have some disability	53.5	49.7	61.4	53.2
Have none	41.3	48.3	30.4	24.7

This shows that among elderly people living at home the incidence of severe loss of mobility is higher, age-group for age-group, among women. The difference in the percentages in the highest age-group who have no disability is not significant.

We have already shown that the percentage of bedfast or housebound among elderly persons living alone is lower than among those living with others, but the percentage having *no* illness or disability is also lower (36.9 per cent compared with 47.4 per cent).

10.6 Effects of illness or disability

Our object here was to find out in what ways the illness or disability handicapped the more mobile elderly. For the most part they were able to describe the effects, but in some instances they could only describe the symptoms. In classifying the answers we have taken the specific effect wherever mentioned and only used the symptoms where no effects have been described.

To some extent the effects described will depend on the kinds of things a person does or would like to do. Therefore the age variations are less marked for activities which older people are less likely to do (for example, household tasks). Effects on movement, however, are more likely to be felt by older people.

Other differences between groups are not great enough for comment.

10.7 Informants' own attitude to health

Informants able to go out were asked:

'Would you say in general you enjoy good health or not?'

The object of this question was to obtain some idea of elderly persons' own attitudes to their physical wellbeing. Some people with quite severe handicaps may nevertheless believe themselves to be in good general health and their own approach to this question may have an important bearing on their general contentment. It was felt that it would show lack of feeling to ask the same question of people who were bedfast or housebound, but we have included them in table 10.7.1 so as to give an overall picture of the whole elderly population.

There is very little difference between the answers of men and women, either in total or comparing age-group with age-group. The differences between the five-year age-groups (men and women combined) show such a marked trend that in this instance we give the figures in this form.

Table 10.6.1 Effects of disability suffered by more mobile elderly people (by age within sex)

	Grand total	Men -	age		-	Women	– age		
	totai	Total	65-74	75—84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75—84	85 & over
Non-housebound or bedfast WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,695) (2,472)	(1,487) (950)	(1,085) (557)	(356) (348)	(46) (45)	(2,208) (1,522)	(1,441) (773)	(647) (632)	(120) (117)
Effects of disability	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
No disabilities	44.0	44.8	48.1	37.4	23.9	43.5	49.3	32.9	31.7
Can't walk fast, far	17.2	20.0	17.1	26.1	39.1	15.3	12.0	14.0	
Can't bend, stoop, kneel	9,9	7.9	7.2	9.6	13.0	11.2	13.9 10.3	16.8	24.2
Can't go out unaided	9,6	7.1	6.0	9.8	13.0	11.2	9.1	13.0 14.2	12.5 20.8
Interferes with social life, entertainment	7.0	6.9	6.1	8.4	15.2	7.1	5.8	8.2	15.8
Makes household duties difficult, impossible	5.7	1.4	1.0	2.2	4.3	8.7	7.8	10.8	7.5
Difficult to go up or down steps, stairs	4.3	2.1	1.7	3.4	2.2	5.8	5.3	6.6	5.8
Have to take things slowly	4.3	5.3	6.0	3.1	6.5	3.6	2.9	5.6	1.7
Difficult to lift, carry	3.7	4.1	3.9	5.3	-	3.5	4.0	2.8	1.7
Have to eat carefully	3.5	3.1	2.9	3.4	6.5	3.7	3.9	3.2	4.2
Difficult to do gardening	3.1	5.4	5.4	5.1	6.5	1.5	1.8	1.1	0.8
Difficulty with personal tasks	1.7	1.6	1.4	2.5	_	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Other specific difficulties	2.4	5.0	5.4	4.5	2.2	0.9	1.0	0.6	
Difficult to see	2.2	1.9	1.7	2.2	4.3	2.4	1.2		
Difficult to hear	2.9	3.3	2.0	5.9	13.0	2.4	1.7	4.5	4.2
Other symptoms described	11.0	13.4	13.6	12.6	15.2	9.4	8.3	4.3 12.1	5.0 8.3
Vague answers, not stated	4.6	4.3	4.7	3.6		4.8	4.8	5.1	4.1

Table 10.7.1 Elderly people's own attitude to state of health (by detailed age-group)

	Total	Age-grou	P			
		65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85 & over
Elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,409) (725) %	(1,162) (629) %	(697) (688) %	(392) (375) %	(209) (205) %
informants' attitude to state of health						
Good in general	77.6	83.3	78.7	73.6	70.9	60.3
Not good	13.8	12.4	15.3	17.2	10.7	8.1
Not stated	1.9	2.3	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.9
Not answered because proxy	2.1	0.9	1.5	2.3	4.8	8.1
Bedfast or housebound	4.5	1.1	2.5	5.9	11.5	20.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Bearing in mind that the general health of the bedfast and housebound must be regarded as not good, the decrease in the proportion who are able to describe their health as good is very marked. It is noteworthy, however, that even among those aged 85 and over three fifths consider their health to be good in general.

If we relate the answers to this question to the presence or absence of a disability we find, as might be expected, that those with a disability are less likely to think their general health is good. However, even among this group 70.4 per cent (compared with 95.2 per cent of those without a disability) give this answer (Bedfast and housebound are excluded here).

10.8 Ability to perform personal tasks

All elderly people were asked about their ability to perform each of eleven tasks involving personal mobility, and about the assistance they receive if unable to perform a task unaided. Some of the tasks are more essential than others for well-being and comfort; some present greater difficulties to greater numbers of elderly people.

In order to present the enormous amount of data in a comprehensible form, we first summarise the extent to which elderly people are able to perform the tasks and then, for each task, examine the characteristics of those unable to do so and show the extent of the assistance received.

'Without any difficulty' is defined as performing the task on one's own, without any special appliances to help.

'On own with difficulty' covers those cases where the task is performed without any help from another person, but where the elderly individual has difficulty, and also cases where a special appliance is used (eg rail in bathroom or lavatory, special cutlery).

'Only with help' implies the need for another person's assistance, but where the elderly person participates to some extent.

Table 10.8.1 Ability to perform personal tasks (based on whole sample—3,869 weighted, 2,622 unweighted)

	Α	Ability to perform task					
	ar	ithout ny ifficulty	On own with difficulty	Only with help	Not at all	Not stated	
Task	-				0.0	1.0 1000	
Bath oneself	% 73		11.1	6.6	8.3	1.0 = 100%	
Wash oneself	% 94	4.1	3.5	1.3	0.5	0.6	
Get to lavatory	% 9:	1.6	6.4	1.1	0.8	0.2	
Get in & out of bed	% 89	9.3	8.9	1.4	0.3	0.1	
Feed oneself	% 94	6.9	2.1	0.7	_	0.3	
Shave (men):							
do hair (women)	% 9	3.7	4.7	0.8	0.7	0.2	
Cut own toenails	% 6		14.1	4.1	20.5	0.1	
Get up & down steps, stairs	% 6		27.0	2.4	3.5(1)	0.2	
Get around house or flat	% 8		9.6	0.6	1.0(1)	0.1	
Go out of doors on own	% 7:		11.5	6.5	5,9(2)	0.5	
Use public transport	% 6		8.8	4.3	17.7(2)	1,5(3)	

⁽¹⁾ includes bedfast

⁽²⁾ includes bedfast and housebound

⁽³⁾ includes 11.1 per cent who do not use public transport

'Not at all' means that the elderly person cannot perform the task at all.

It can be seen that cutting toenails is the task which presents the greatest difficulty to the greatest number of elderly people. It is also something which needs to be done regularly for comfort and health.

Differences between the extent to which men and women can perform tasks are, for the most part, not very great and can be explained by the higher average age of women. Exceptions are as follows:

Unable to do on own or totally

	Men	Women	_
	%	%	_
Task			
Bath oneself	10.2	17.9	
Cut own toenails	18.1	28.9	
Get up and down steps, stairs	3.8	6.7	
Go out doors on own	3.5	10.8	
Hen muhlin tennen unt	40.0		

In all these instances, comparing age-group with agegroup, women are more likely tha men to be unable to manage the task.

Inability to perform some of the tasks is more likely to be associated with a specific disability. For others, it may be associated with general infirmity. Consequently, the inability to perform some tasks increases less sharply with age.

Although the difficulties are most acute in the two highest age-groups, there are appreciable proportions among the younger elderly who are unable to manage a number of personal tasks. It also needs to be recognised that, in absolute numbers, there are more individuals needing help with some tasks among the younger age-groups than among the older. For example, the number of people under 75 who cannot cut their own toenails exceeds the number of people aged 80 and over.

Regional differences are not significant, but there are some marked differences between elderly people living in different types of household.

Table 10.8.2 Percentage in each age-group who are unable to perform each task

	Age-group	,			
Eldeds assess WEIGHTED	65-69	70-74	75—79	80-84	85 & over
Elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,409)	(1,162)	(697)	(392)	(209)
(unweighted figures)	% (723)	(629) %	(688)	(375)	(205)
Unable to do without help	70	70	70	%	%
or to totally unable					
Bath oneself	4.4	11.7	20.2	32.6	51.2
Wash oneself	0.8	1.0	2.3	4.6	7.2
Get to lavatory	0.4	1.3	2.8	5.1	6.2
Get in and out of bed	0.6	1.1	2.7	4.4	4.8
Feed oneself	0.1	0.3	1.3	1.8	2.4
Shave (men); do hair (women)	0.5	0.6	2.5	3.8	4.3
Cut own toenails	12.5	21.3	34.6	42.4	56.9
Get up and down steps, stairs	1.6	3.8	10.1	12.8	18.6
Get around house or flat	0.2	0.8	2.2	4.6	6.2
Go out of doors on own	4.4	9.5	16.5	23.5	48.9
Use public transport	5.3	9.3	15.1	23.8	37.9

Table 10.8.3 Percentage living in each type of household who are unable to perform each task

	Type of he	ousehold			
	One elderly person	Elderly married couple ⁽¹⁾	Elderly siblings(1)	Others— one elderly	Others— more than one elderly
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(1,144)	(1,705)	(108)	(556)	(356)
(unweighted figures)	(809)	(1,099)	(82)	(379)	(253)
	%	%	%	%	%
Unable to do without help or totally unable					
Bath oneself	17.3	11.5	13.0	21.6	12.9
Wash oneself	0.7	1.9	0.9	4.4	1.7
Get to lavatory	0.5	1.6	1.9	5.6	2.0
Get in and out of bed	0.5	1.8	0.9	4.3	1.4
Feed oneself	0.3	0.4	_	2.5	0.6
Shave (men), do hair (women)	0.7	0.9	_	4.2	2.5
Cut own toenails	29.1	20.1	12.9	30.8	24.7
Get up and down steps, stairs	6.2	4.9	2.7	9.4	4.7
Get around house or flat	0.8	1.1	0.9	4.4	2.0
Go out of doors on own	10.3	9.7	7.4	23.5	16.3
Use public transport	12.2	8.7	13.0	19.2	14.4

⁽¹⁾ One or both elderly.

Elderly persons living with non-elderly people are, taken overall, less able to cope with personal tasks than those living alone or with an elderly spouse or sibling. This probably reflects the tendency for elderly persons who become infirm to go to live with younger members of the family (or to go into institutions, which were not covered by this survey). Nevertheless, the fact remains that appreciable numbers of elderly people who live on their own are unable to cope with a number of personal tasks.

10.9 Help given with personal tasks

We deal separately with each task here, because of the varied nature of the problems and of the assistance

received. Often the distinction between 'only with help' and 'not at all' is a fine one, so they are frequently combined.

(i) Bathing

We have shown that 6.6 per cent are able to bath only with help and 8.3 per cent not at all. In this case the distinction between the two is more meaningful than elsewhere and we therefore show them separately.

The composition of the two groups compares with that of the whole sample as follows:

Table 10.9.1 Comparison of those able to bath only with help, not at all, and total sample

		Bath only with help	Not at all	Whole sample
Elde	rly persons WEIGHTED	(254)	(320)	(3,869)
	reighted figures)	(205)	(268)	(2,622)
(organica - igain- iy	%	%	%
Sex	Men	30.3	25.0	39.8
Jea	Women	69.7	75.0	60.2
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age	65-69	14.2	8.1	36.4
rige	70-74	23.6	23.8	30.0
	75-79	25.6	23.8	18.0
	80-84	18.9	25.0	10.1
	85 and over	17.7	19.4	5.4
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live	in households consisting of:			40.4
One	elderly person only	26.8	40.6	29.6
Elde	erly married couple only	36.6	32.2	44.1
Elde	erly siblings only	1.6	3.1	2.8
Oth	er types with one elderly person	22.8	19.4	14.4
Oth	er types with more than one elderly	12.2	4.7	9.2
Tota	al	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 10.9.2 Help given with bathins

	Bath only with help	Cannot bath at all
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(254)	(320)
(unweighted figures)	(205)	(268)
Help received from:		
Person(s) in household	61.0	7.5
Relative(s) outside(1)	18.5	1.2
Friend(s) outside	4.7	0.9
District nurse, health visitor	8.7	9.1
Home help	1.6	_
Other person outside	3.5	3.1
No one	2.0	81.2
Not stated	2.4	0.6
Whether help is enough		
Yes	89.0	17.2
No	2.8	0.3
Not stated	3.9	0.6
None received, not stated		
whether any received	4.4	81.8
Total	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Usually daughters/in law or sons/in law.

Higher proportions of both groups than of the whole elderly population consist of women and of people aged 80 or more. Perhaps the most important finding is that two-fifths of those unable to bath at all live alone.

Bathing' was defined as actually getting into the bath. Those who cannot doe so at all are physically lifted in and out, and in comparatively few cases is this actually done, even by trained people. The high percentage in this group who receive no help presumably reflects the fact that, for untrained relatives, to give a proper bath to a very infirm person is impossible.

Those people who receive none or inadequate help just do not bath. None of those who could bath with help and only 9.7 per cent of those totally unable to bath mention blanket baths or showers.

(ii) Washing oneself

This was defined as everyday washing, as desired by the informant. The number of those able to wash themselves only with help or not at all is too small for detailed analysis.

Two-fifths of them are men, 45.8 per cent are 80 years old or more, 11.1 per cent live alone.

Four-fifths receive help from members of their households, 12.4 per cent from relatives outside, 2.8 per cent from friends, 11.1 per cent from a district nurse or health visitor and 2.8 per cent from a home help. One individual claims to receive no help: apart from this person none claim that the help received is inadequate.

(iii) Getting to the lavatory

This covered all aspects, including going up and down stairs (if this was involved) and actually using the lavatory.

Of the small number who could not get to the lavatory without help, 30.1 per cent are men, 45.2 per cent are 80 years old or more, 8.2 per cent live alone. The last-named group, though few in number, must give rise for concern, because bathing or washing can be, at a pinch, postponed until help is available but obviously the need to use the lavatory cannot.

Because of the special nature of this need, virtually all the assistance has to be provided within the household: 65.8 per cent receive this assistance, 4.1 per cent receive help from relatives outside—1.4 per cent from a home help. All those who commode.

One individual claims that arrangements are unsatisfactory.

(iv) Getting in and out of bed

41.8 per cent of the small number who can get out of bed only with help or not at all are men, 40.3 per cent are 80 years old or more, 9.0 per cent live alone. Though few in number, the last-named group must give rise to concern, because their almost total immobility, in addition to its ocial undesirability, may lead to dangerous situations.

82.1 per cent receive help from members of their households, six per cent from relatives outside, 9.8 per cent from a district nurse and three per cent from a home help. 7.5 per cent receive no help. In addition to these, one individual claims that the assistance received is inadequate.

(v) Feeding oneself

No individual is totally unable to feed him/herself. Presumably anyone as incapacitated as this would have been taken into hospital.

Only 23 individuals (unweighted number) are able to feed themselves only with help (three of their bive alone) so detailed analysis is not warranted. It can be said that those not living alone receive adequate help from their households and those living alone receive enough help from relatives outside.

(vi) Shaving (men), brushing and combing hair (women)

Comparatively few individuals are able to perform these tasks only with help or not at all. One seventh of them live alone.

Table 10.9.3 Comparison of those able to cut toenails only with help, not at all, and total sample

	Can cut toenails	:	Whole sample
	Only with help	Not at all	- sample
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(157)	(793)	(3,869)
(unweighted figures)	(116)	(631)	(2,622)
()	0/0	%	%
Sex Men	36.9	27.7	39,8
Women	63.1	72.3	60.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age 65-69	26.8	16.9	36.4
70-74	26.8	26.0	30.0
75-79	18.5	26.7	18.0
80-84	15.9	17.8	10.1
85 and over	12.1	12.6	5.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live in households consisting of:			
One elderly person only	21.0	37.8	29.6
Elderly married couple only	43.9	34.7	44.1
Elderly siblings only	0.6	1.6	2.8
Other types with one elderly person	23.6	16.9	14.4
Other types with more than one elderly	10.8	9.0	9.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

All receive help: 69.6 per cent from their households, 21.5 per cent from relatives outside, 5.4 per cent from friends, 3.6 per cent from a district nurse or health visitor, 7.1 per cent from a home help, 3.6 per cent say the help received is inadequate.

(vii) Cutting toenails

We have already shown that this is a personal task which causes difficulty to a comparatively large number of elderly people.

The difference between the three is interesting. The sex and age differences are not extremely great, but the percentage of those totally unable to cut their own toenalis who live alone is considerably higher than among those who can do so with help and among the whole elderly population. The difference is much greater than can be accounted for by the different sex and age compositions of the groups. This may possibly imply that some of those who say they are totally unable to cut their toenalis do so because they have no-one living with them who can help. This conclusion is borne out to some extent by the nature of the help received by the groups.

Those who receive no help or say the help is inadequate 'just have to let them grow'...

It seems that, while the majority of elderly who need help with their toenails are receiving adequate help, a minority are probably suffering quite severe discomfort.

(viii) Getting up and down stairs

Bedfast people are excluded from consideration here. It is legitimate to include them in the 'totally unable to get up and down stairs' group when

Table 10.9.4 Help given with cutting toenails

	Cut toenails	
	Only with help	Not at all
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(157)	(793)
(unweighted figures)	(116)	(631)
(unweighted figures)	%	%
Help received from:		
Person(s) in household	64.3	15.8
Relative(s) outside	8.9	5.0
Friend(s) outside	3.2	1.1
District nurse, health visitor	3.2	2.6
Home help	1.3	0.1
Chiropodist ⁽¹⁾	19.7	72.6
Other person outside	1.9	0.8
No one	_	4.4
Not stated	0.6	_
Whether help is enough		
Yes	87.3	85.8
No	8.9	5.2
Not stated	3.2	4.7
None received, not stated		
whether any received	0.6	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0

Most informants did not say whether the chiropodist was provided by the welfare authorities or not.

considering mobility in general, but it would not be reasonable to include them in a more mobile group when considering the form of help given.

The distinction between 'only with help' and 'not at all' does not seem entirely clear cut. As will be seen later, the majority of the latter group do not attempt stairs, but a few do so with help and a few would like more help. Probably the latter can get up and down stairs with extreme difficulty and a lot of help.

Table 10.9.5 Comparison of those able to climb stairs only with help, not at all, and total sample

		Can climb stairs		
		Only with help	Not at all	Whole sample
C14-	rly persons WEIGHTED	(94)	(123)	(3,869)
Elde	riy persons wellon reb	(80)	(103)	(2,622)
(unw	eignted rigures)	%	%	%
	**	24.5	29.3	39.8
Sex	Men	75.5	70.7	60.2
	Women	13.3	70.7	
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
	44. 40	9.6	11.4	36,4
Age	65-69	19.1	22.0	30.0
	70-74	33.0	30.1	18.0
	75-79	24.5	18.7	10.1
	80-84	13.8	17.9	5.4
	85 and over	13.0	17.9	
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live	in households consisting of:			
	elderly person only	29.8	34.1	29.6
Elde	erly married couple only	35.1	40.7	44.1
Elde	erly siblings only	1.1	0.8	2.8
Oth	er types with one elderly person	25.5	17.9	14.4
Oth	er types with more than one elderly	8.5	6.5	9.2
Tota	al	100,0	100.0	100.0

Both groups are older on average and contain higher proportions of women than the elderly population as a whole. The 'not at all' group include a higher proportion living alone, possible confirming the hypothesis already put forward that lack of immediate help has led them to say they cannot get up and down stairs at all.

Table 10.9.6 Help given with climbing stairs

	Can climb stairs	s:
	Only with help	Not at all
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(94)	(123)
(unweighted figures)	(80)	(103)
	%	%
Help received from:		
Person(s) in household	53.2	18.7
Relative(s) outside household	21,2	7.3
Friend(s) outside household	8.5	_
Other(s) outside household	14.9	1.6
None received	7.4	69.9
Not stated	5.3	4.9
Whether help is enough:		
Yes	79.8	21.1
No	2.1	2.4
Not stated	5.3	1.6
None received, not stated		
whether any received	12.8	74.8
Total	100.0	100.0

8.5 per cent of the first group and 56.9 per cent of the second say they avoid going anywhere with stairs. The remainder gave vague answers or did not say.

It seems probable that the mobility of some elderly persons in respect of stairs might be improved with greater assistance (if an elderly person could elimb stairs by using an additional rail or similar appliance, he or she was treated as 'climbing stairs on own with difficulty'. So the kind of help needed by those who cannot manage might take the form of a suitable appliance or personal assistance).

(ix) Getting around house/flat

Excluding the bedfast, only 0.7 per cent are totally unable to get about the house or flat and 0.6 pecent only with help. No conclusions can be drawn from such small numbers, but it may be noted that one-seventh of them live alone and nearly one quarter are housewives.

(x) Go out of doors on own

The bedfast and housebound were excluded from this question, which emphasised the words 'on your own'. The answer 'only with help' implies than an informant would need help in certain things, such as going up and down steps or crossing roads but could otherwise manage on his or her own. 'Not at all' implies that he or she is quite unable to go out unaccompanied. The number in the last-named category (when bedfast and house-

bound are excluded) is small and the distinction between the two categories is not entirely clear cut, so they have been combined here and are referred to as 'unable to go out on own'.

Table 10.9.7 Comparison of those unable to go out on own and total sample

		Unable to go out on own	Whole sample
Elde	rly persons WEIGHTED	(307)	(3,869)
unw	eighted figures)	(243)	(2,622)
Sex	Men	% 17.9	%
ex.	Women	82,1	39.8 60.2
	Total	100.0	100.0
\ge	65-69	15.0	36.4
-8-	70-74	26.4	30.0
	75-79	24.1	18.0
	80-84	15.3	10.1
	85 and over	19.2	5.4
	Total	100.0	100.0
	in households consisting of:		
	elderly person only	23.8	29.6
	rly married couple only	34.5	44.1
	rly siblings only	2.0	2.8
	r types with one elderly person	28.0	14.4
the	r types with more than one elderly	11.7	9.2
ota		100.0	100.0

56.4% of those unable to go out on their own are housewives.

Table 10.9.8 Help given in going out of doors

	Unable to go out on own
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(307)
(unweighted figures)	(243)
	%
Hclp received from:	
Other person in household	57.0
Daughter/in law outside household	15.3
Son/in law outside household	7.8
Other relatives outside household	4.6
Friend outside household	10.7
Home help	2.0
Other person outside household	5.2
None received	8.1
Not stated	6.5
Whether help is enough	
Yes	73.0
No	6.8
Not stated	5.5
None received, not stated whether any received	14.7
Total	100.0

When the 14.7 per cent receiving no help or inadequate help were asked how they managed nearly half gave the answer 'taken out in car sometimes', which, in fact, begs the question, as this is in itself a form of aid. A few gave answers implying that necessities etc were brought to them or that visitors came, but at least half gave vague answers.

Table 10.9.9 Comparison of those able to use public transport only with help, or not at all, and total sample

		Can use PT:		Whole sample
		Only with help	Not at all	— sample
Elde	rly persons WEIGHTED	(165)	(122)	(3,869)
	eighted figures)	(123)	(96)	(2,622)
(organica rigarian)	%	%	%
Sex	Men	17.6	23.0	39,8
	Women	82.4	77.0	60.2
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
\ge	65-69	22.4	18.9	36.4
	70-74	27.9	27.0	30.0
	75-79	23.6	20.5	18.0
	80-84	16.4	17.2	10.1
	85 and over	9.7	16.4	5.4
	Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Live	in households consisting of:			
	elderly person only	27.9	40.2	29.6
	rly married couple only	33.9	27.0	44.1
	rly siblings only	5.5	2.5	2.8
	er types with one elderly person	23.0	19.7	14.4
Oth	er types with more than one elderly	9.7	10.7	9.2
Tota	1	100.0	100.0	100.0

It can be concluded that there is a small group of the elderly who could be helped by the provision of some form of assistance in going out. This might improve their social life as well as their capacity to cope with domestic duties.

(xi) Using public transport

There is a substantial group (11.1 per cent) of elderly people who never use public transport, either because they go everywhere by car or because there is no need to do so. We have shown that 4.3 per cent can use public transport only with help and 3.2 per cent not at all. These groups compare with the whole sample as follows:

As with virtually all the comparatively less mobile groups, there are higher proportions of women and of very old people. Among the less mobile of the two groups above there is a higher percentage of those living alone. It seems possible that some of those who say they are unable to use public transport do so because there is no-one to help in their household.

The only kind of help which can be given to someone totally unable to use public transport is to provide alternative means of transport or to undertake necessary journeys on behalf of the person concerned. For the rest it may include this as well as physical assistance in using public transport.

Only a few of those who can use public transport only with help receive none or complain of inadequate help. For the most part, when asked how they manage they give vague answers or ones which beg the question (eg taken out by car).

Table 10.9.10 Help given with using public transport

	Can use PT	:
	Only with help	Not at al
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(165)	(122)
(unweighted figures)	(123)	(96)
	%	%
Help received from:		
Other person in household	57.0	13.1
Daughter/in law(s) outside household	12.1	0.8
Other relative(s) outside household)	6.6	3.3
Friend(s) outside household	13.3	2.5
Home help	1.2	_
Other person(s) outside household	16.4	0.8
None received	1.8	76.2(1)
Not stated	3.6	4.9
Whether help is enough		
Yes	85.5	15.6
No	6.1	0.8
Not stated	3.0	2.5
None received, not stated whether		
any received	5.5	81.1(1)
	100.0	100.0

 It seems likely that a number of informants in this group may have overlooked the kind of help described above.

The number (and percentage) of those totally unable to use public transport who say they receive none or inadequate help is much greater than of those who use it with help. Many of their answers support the hypothesis advanced in the footnote to the table. 27.9 per cent are taken out by car, 12.3 per cent walk everywhere, 11.5 per cent take taxis. 5.7 per cent have necessities brought to them. There remains a hard core of virtually immobilised people: 7.4 per cent are

compelled to stay at home, 4.1 per cent go out only in a wheelchair, 22.2 per cent gave no answer to the question.

10.10 Warmth

Interviewing was carried out at the coldest time of the year and this provided a good opportuity to find out to what extent elderly people suffer from the cold. In addition, the question was deliberately framed to identify the maximum numbers who had difficulty keeping warm in various places. Informants were asked: In the winter, are you warm enough all the time in bed, in the living room, in the kitchen, when you go out?

Bedfast informants were asked about bed only, housebound about places indoors only.

Answers given by proxies were not accepted, as they could not be expected to answer for another person's feelings. The following summary of those who are not always warm enough has therefore been based on non-proxy interviews. The percentage of proxy interviews is considerably higher among those aged 85 and over and would therefore distort the picture if included in the table. This is not an entirely satisfactory procedure, because implicit in it is the assumption that the answers given by informants for whom a proxy was interviewed would be distributed in the same way as those given by informants interviewed directly.

Because of the limitations already described these figures should be regarded as giving orders of magnitude of maximum numbers rather than exact estimates of elderly people who are unable to keep warm enough.

Informants who said they were not warm enough were asked, in respect of each place, a 'prompted' question about the reasons they are cold. Financial difficulties were deliberately prompted to try to establish the maximum numbers who may be unable to afford adequate heating.

Except for out of doors, financial reasons are an important factor, possibly more so than appears at first sight. For example, a draughty room can be made draught proof, at a price, and additional bedelothes can be costly.

Table 10.10.2 Reasons for not being warm enough

	In bed
Informants who are not warm enough	
WEIGHTED	(284)
(unweighted figure)	(194)
	%
Reasons	
No means of heating in bedroom	26.8
Can't afford to heat bedroom	39.1
Not enough bedclothes	9.5
Health reasons(1)	32.0
Other reasons	16.2
Other reasons	10.2
	In living room
Informants who are not warm enough	III II III II III II II II II II II II
WEIGHTED	(320)
(unweighted figure)	(221)
(unweighted rigure)	(221)
Reasons	*/c
Difficulty with fires	
	4.1
Can't afford to spend more on fuel	50.6
Room is draughty	45.3
Health reasons(1)	17.5
Other reasons	11.2
	In kitchen
Information I.	In kitchen
Informants who are not warm enough	
WEIGHTED	(452)
(unweighted figure)	(309)
	%
Reasons	
Difficulty with stove	0.4
No means of heating apart from stove	47.3
Can't afford to spend more on fuel	35.0
Kitchen is draughty	53.3
Health reasons(1)	7.3
Other reasons	4.2
	Out of doors
Informants who are not warm enough	
WEIGHTED	(280)
(unweighted figure)	(186)
	%
Reasons	
Can't move fast	50.0
Coat not warm enough	9.6
Health reasons(1)	50.4
Other reasons	4.6
Other reasons	4.0

⁽¹⁾ This reason was not 'prompted' because in effect it begs the question. Ideally a person with indifferent health should be able to keep warm. However, numbers of informants could give no other reason.

These findings do not reveal the whole picture of the problem of keeping warm, because they only relate to people who admit to being cold in winter in some situations. There may well be others who are not cold but who only keep warm by going without other things.

Table 10.10.1 Elderly persons who are not warm enough in certain places (by age within sex)

	Grand total	Men				Women			
	wai	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Not warm enough:									
In bed	7.6	7.4	8.1	5.4	6.7	7.6	7.0	8.9	7.2
In living room	8.5	8.8	8.1	11.7	2.1	8.2	7.8	9.9	5.0
In kitchen	12.0	11.6	11.7	12.0	6.5	12.2	11.7	13.8	10.0
Out of doors	7.4	7.5	8.6	5.1	4.0	7.3	7.1	8.5	3,5
(unweighted)(1)	(2,558)	(966)	(566)	(361)	(49)	(1,592)	(782)	(670)	(140)

⁽¹⁾ The base number of non-proxy interviews varies slightly because of the exclusion of bedfast and housebound at certain points. The above can be taken as rough unweighted figures for significance tests.

We asked a question 'Does the cost of keeping warm mean that you have to go without other things?' However, we cannot regard the 13.5 per cent who say they have to go without other things as providing a complete picture either. A person cannot go without something which he or she has not previously enjoyed and therefore some of those who have not given up anything may still be cold because they cannot cut down on anything else.

The things mentioned (food 5.3 per cent, clothes 4.0 per cent, social activities 2.4 per cent, holidays 1.5 per cent, tobacco, drinks 1.3 per cent, cut down in general 2.5 per cent) can all be regarded as important.

10.11 Ability to perform domestic tasks

Informants were asked, in respect of a number of domestic tasks essential to everyday living, whether they could carry out the task on their own and, if not, who did it for them. Ignorance of how to do a task was treated as inability, since elderly persons suddenly faced with the need to perform a task on their own would not be able to do so if they did not know how (for example, a man faced with the need to mend his clothes or a woman to repair a fuse).

The decreasing ability to perform each task with increasing age is very marked. For most tasks the most abrupt increase is between the 70-74 age-group and the 75-79, although there are some considerable differences between the 80-84 group and the 85 and over.

Differences in the ability of the sexes to perform tasks do not appear to be related to age, because comparing agegroup with age-group shows the same tendencies as among men and women as a whole. It seems likely that many of the differences between men's and women's abilities are more a product of ignorance than of physical

differences, because tasks such as little sewing jobs or mending fuses involve very little physical effort. There are, of course, exceptions, such as gardening and window cleaning.

It is evident that the greatest need for assistance among elderly people is for help with heavier tasks and with those involving some agility. (Among tasks involving climbing are changing electric light bulbs and hanging curtains). Most of these are jobs which home helps do not normally do and many are jobs which appreciable proportions of housewives and of those living alone are unable to do.

10.12 Help with domestic tasks

Interviews with two or more elderly persons in the same household were usually carried out jointly. If one of the two but not the other can perform a task he/she appears in Table 10.12.1 as 'other informant'.

It is obvious that elderly persons living alone are much worse off in this respect than others, although elderly siblings on their own include relatively high proportions unable to perform heavier tasks (probably a consequence of the preponderance of elderly sisters in this group).

Although percentages are small in many cases, it should be remembered that there are approximately 73/4 million people aged 65 and over in the United Kingdom, (about 61/2 million in England) and the number is increasing. The assistance which may be provided depends both on the resources available and on the assessment of the standards which elderly people are entitled to expect. Some of the undone jobs may not be actually injurious to physical health but undoubtedly cause worry to a good housewife or a keen gardener. It is worth noting that one elderly woman is reported as saying that she lived in apprehension that unwilling juvenile delinquents would

Table 10.11.1 Percentages unable to perform each task (by sex and age; housewives and those living alone shown separately)

	Total	Sex		Age						
	i	Men	Women	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85 & over	House- wives	Living alone
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,540)	(2,329)	(1,409)	(1,162)	(697)	(392) (375)	(209)	(2,333)	(1,144
unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(994)	(2,329) (1,628) %	(725)	(629)	(688)	(375)	(205)	(2,333) (1,597)	%(809)
Unable to:	70									
Open screw-top bottles(1)	9.7	4.2	13.4	5.3	8.4	11.5	18.4	24.4	10.2	7.9
Oo little sewing jobs(1)	14.9	22.5	9.8	9.7	11.8	17.1	27.6	35.4	9.0	10.9
obs involving climbing	43.0	32.9	49.7	28.0	37.7	57.1	67.3	80.4	45.3	46.9
se a frying pan	5.4	5.5	5.3	2.1	2.8	6.0	13.8	24.9	1.9	1.7
lake a cup of tea	2.6	1.9	3.1	0.9	1.4	2.9	6.4	12.9	0.8	0,6
Cook a main meal	8.8	12.5	6.4	4.6	6.8	10.0	18.1	26.8	3.3	3.7
Cut the lawn(2)	25.8	14.4	33.4	15.7	20.9	33.4	47.2	56.0	27.2	22.0
Do heavy jobs in garden(2)	47.1	32.9	56.6	38.4	44.5	55.2	61.0	67.9	50.8	45.6
Oo light jobs in garden ⁽²⁾	19.3	11.1	24.8	10.0	15.4	27.0	34.7	49.8	19.4	17.7
Sweep floors	11.3	10.9	11.5	5.5	8.0	14.8	23.2	34.4	8.2	8.9
Wash floors	21.7	20.2	22.7	10.9	15.0	30.8	42.6	62.2	18.9	22.2
vash floors vake fires, carry fuel(2)	6.0	4.0	7.3	3.1	4.3	8.6	11.2	17.2	4.8	3.2
	14.5	18.3	11.9	6.8	10.8	20.2	29.1	39.7	10.2	13.5
Vash clothes	23.6	18.4	27.1	11.4	17.6	32.3	48.0	65.1	22.7	26.2
lean windows inside	52.5	39.9	60.8	37.2	50.4	64.0	76.3	84.7	56.5	59.6
lean windows outside(2)	23.9	19.0	27.1	11.6	16.3	32.3	50.5	70.8	22.9	27.7
Vash paintwork	49.8	21.0	68.9	35.3	46.0	62.0	73.2	84.2	61.3	61.7
linor repairs (eg fuses)	60.5	43.0	72.1	41.4	58.3	77.6	87.5	94.3	67.1	73.0
Repairs & redecoration inside Repairs & redocoration outside(2)	49.2	38.5	56.2	42.0	46.6	53.7	65.6	65.6	51.7	47.9

⁽¹⁾ Bediant informants were asked about these tasks. They are assumed to be unable to do the others.
2) Informants who would not know to perform these tasks (e.g. because they had no garden) are included in the base figures so that the figures given show the percentages of all elderly for whom the tasks present problems. The percentages to whom these do not apply are: lawn 29.7 per cent, garden 22.6 per cent, sold full ellies 55.8 per cent, windows outside 3.1 per cent, redecorations outside 53.9 per cent.

Table 10.12.1 Help given with domestic tasks (based on all informants)

		Job do	ne by:									
		Infor- mant	Other infor-	Both jointly	Home help	Paid help	Per- son(s)	Outside	nouseholo	3	Not done	Not
		шаш	mant		(LA)	петр	in h'hold	Relative	Friend	Other	dolle	stated
Job												
Open screw top bottles		90.3	4.3	0.2	0.5	0.2	2.3	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.4	_
Do little sewing jobs		85.1	6.6	0.1	0.4	0.1	3.4	1.9	1.1	0.3	0.9	0.1
Jobs involving climbing		57.0	9.2	1.0	4.0	4.1	9.0	11.8	3.5	1.0	3.0	0.4
Using a frying pan		94.6	2.5	_	0.1	_	2.0	0.4	_	0.1	0.2	0.2
Make a cup of tea		97.4	1.1	_	_	_	1.2	0.2	_		_	0.1
Cook a main meal		91.2	4.1	_	0.2	_	3.2	0.9	0.1	0.6(1)	0.1	0.1
Cut the lawn(2)		44.5	6.6		_	3.6	7.0	4.3	2.1	0.1	2.3	0.2
Heavy jobs in garden(2)		30.1	7.6	0.2	_	7.0	10.0	10.8	3.3	0.6	9.3	0.9
Light jobs in garden(2)		61.6	2.2	_	_	2.3	4.8	2.7	1.1	0.3	2.4	0.3
Sweep floors		88.7	4.3	_	2.3	0.8	2.9	0.5	0.1	_	0.2	0.2
Wash floors		78.3	6.2	_	4.7	1.5	5.2	2.1	0.2	2.1	1.5	0.4
Make fires, carry fuel(2)		38.2	2.4	_	0.5	0.2	2.2	0.4	0.2	_	0.1	0.2
Wash clothes		85.5	4.3	_	1.3	1.1	3.3	3.3	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.2
Clean windows inside		76.4	6.2	0.2	5.1	2.4	5.4	2.8	0.5	0.1	0.9	0.3
Clean windows outside(2)		44.1	7.0	_	2.1	29.6	5.4	2.9	0.6	0.2	5.2	0.5
Wash paintwork		76.1	5.3	0.2	3.7	1.9	5.6	3.3	0.3	0.4	3.3	0.3
Minor repairs (eg fuses)	%	50.2	10.7	0.1	0.6	8.1	9.2	13.7	6.6	2.8	0.5	0.6
Repairs & redecoration												
inside	%	39.5	6.2	0.1	_	24.6	9.3	12.9	1.4	5.6(3)	3.8	0.5
Repairs & redecoration												
outside	%	14.2	3.5	_	_	29.6	5.6	4.7	0.6	3.2	2.5	0.6

(1) Meals on Wheels

(2) Cases where these do not apply are not shown, so percentages total to less than 100
 (3) Includes 4.3 per cent naming local authority

Table 10.12.2 Percentage of elderly persons saying each job does not get done (by type of household)

	Total	Type of	household			
		Elderly person on own	Elderly married couple only	Elderly siblings only	Others— one elderly person only	Others— more than one elderly person
Elderly person WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,144)	(1,705)	(108)	(556)	(356)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(809)	(1,099)	(82)	(379)	(253)
Tasks NOT done	%	%	%	%	%	%
Open screw top bottles	0.4	1.3	0.1		_	_
Little sewing jobs	0.9	1.7	0.9	_	0.2	_
Jobs involving climbing	3.0	5.6	2.0	3.7	0.9	2.2
Use a frying pan	0.2	0.5			0.5	
Cook a main meal	0.1	0.3	_	_	0.2	_
Cut the lawn	2.3	4.5	1.3	3.7	1.8	0.6
Heavy jobs in garden	9.3	13.3	8.1	14.8	4.9	7.3
Light jobs in garden	2.4	5.3	0.9	1.9	2.2	0.3
Sweep floors	0.2	0.8	_	_	_	_
Wash floors	1.5	2.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	0.6
Make fires	0.1	0.3	_	_	_	_
Wash clothes Clean windows inside	0.1	0.2	0.4	_	_	
Clean windows inside Clean windows outside	5.2	2.1 9.6	3.8	1.9	0.2	0.6
Wash paintwork	3.3	6.6	1.6	1.9	1.4	4.5 3.4
Minor repairs	0.5	1.3	1.0	1.9	0.4	0.6
Repairs & redecoration inside	3.8	7.2	2.1	9.3	1.6	2.8
Repairs & redecoration outside	2.5	3.6	1.5	7.4	1.4	3.4

be sent to redecorate her house. This shows that any help which is provided should be given by people who are acceptable to the elderly recipients.

10.13 Shopping

Almost everyone needs to do some kind of shopping, while, by definition, the housewife is responsible for doing the household shopping or for ensuring that it is done. All elderly persons were questioned about the household shopping. 60.3 per cent are housewives and we give information separately for these.

The problems connected with shopping are different for the bedfast and housebound, and we therefore deal with this group separately. They were asked: 'Who does the housebound shopping for you?'

In spite of the comparatively small number of bedfast and housebound who live alone, most of the differences between them and others are highly significant. The extent to which they depend on the help of neighbours and of not very close relatives is noteworthy (15.6 per cent out of the total of 31.1 per cent 'other relatives' are

Table 10.13.1 How shopping is done for bedfast and housebound elderly (those living alone, living with others and housewives shown separately)

	Total	Living alone	Others	H/wives
Bedfast or housebound WEIGHTED	(174)	(45)	(129)	(72)
(unweighted figures)	(150)	(38)	(112)	(62)
(unweighted rigares)	%	%	%	%
Shopping done by:				
Other elderly person in household	27.0	_	36.4	15.3
Other person(s) in household	36.8	-	49.6	11.1
Person(s) outside				
Daughter/in law	10.3	17.8	7.8	19.4
Other relative(s)	10.9	31.1	3.9	20.2
Neighbour, friend	10.9	31.1	3.9	22.2
LA home help	13.2	42.2	3.1	29.2
Other paid help	2.9	4.4	2.3	5.6
Delivered	1.1	4.4		2.8
Other, not stated	2.8	4.4	2.3	4.2

Table 10.13.2 How shopping is done for elderly persons able to go out (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men				Women				
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	
Persons able to go out										
WEIGHTED	(3,695)	(1,487)	(1,085)	(356)	(46)	(2,208)	(1,441)	(647)	(120)	
(unweighted figures)	(2,472)	(950)	(557)	(348)	(45)	(1,522)	(773)	(632)	(117)	
(%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Informants who:										
Do all the shopping	37.2	20.9	18.9	27.5	17.4	48.1	53.8	40.8	19.2	
Do part of the shopping	38.9	44.9	47.5	39.6	23.9	34.8	37.3	30.8	26.7	
Do none	23.6	33.9	33.3	32.9	56.5	16.7	8.4	28.1	54.2	
Donone										
Not stated	0.4	0.3	0.4	_	2.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	_	
. Tot out a										
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
10111										
Part or all done by:										
Other elderly person	32.2	43.2	44.1	41.6	34.8	24.8	28.0	19.3	15.8	
Other person(s) in household	18.8	28.3	32.6	16.0	21.7	12.4	9.3	16.2	28.3	
Other person(s) in no										
Person(s) outside										
Daughter/in law	6.0	4.2	2.9	7.6	6.5	7.2	4.2	11.7	19.2	
Other relative(s)	2.8	3.3	2.4	2.5	4.3	3.2	2.2	4.5	6.6	
Neighbour, friend	3.9	2.4	1.4	4.2	13.0	4.9	2.5	8.8	13.3	
LA home help	2.0	1.2	0.7	2.0	6.5	2.5	2.1	2.9	5.8	
Other paid help	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.1	_	0.3		0.5	2.5	
Delivered	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.6	2.2	1.0	0.7	1.4	3.3	
Other, not stated	1.1	1.0	0.8	2.0		1.2	0.7	2.4	0.8	

nieces, nephews or cousins). It is also noteworthy that none in either group say their shopping is done by a son, son-in-law or brother outside the household.

All those living alone must be housewives and these comprise 62.5 per cent of all bedfast and housebound housewives. Some housewives not living alone depend on the help of people outside the household.

Informants able to go out were asked whether they do all the household shopping, part or none. If they do part only or more they were asked who does part or all of the shopping for them.

It is possible to analyse their answers in more detail than for housebound.

Shopping is evidently much more a feminine task than a masculine. Although the percentages doing all, some

and none are much the same amongst men and women aged 85 and over, when we take into account that the 'other elderly person in household' is nearly always of the opposite sex to the informant, it becomes apparent that in this age-group, too, men are less likely than women to do the shopping.

The differences between the kinds of people giving help to men and to women among those aged 85 and over can be accounted for by the fact that men of this age are more likely to have a surviving wife (possibly in a younger age group) than women are to have a surviving husband. Consequently women are more dependent on help from outside the household, particularly on agustic transcription.

We next examine the extent to which elderly people living in different types of households and elderly housewives do the shopping, and the help they receive.

Table 10.13.3 How shopping is done for elderly persons able to go out (by type of household; housewives shown separately)

	Type of	household				House	
	One elderly person only	Elderly married couple only	Elderly siblings only	Others— one elderly person only	Others— more than one elderly person		
Persons able to go out WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,099) (771)	(1,645) (1,048)	(106) (80)	(511) (337) %	(334) (236) %	(2,261) (1,535)	
Informants who:	/4	70	N	/L	n	10	
Do all the shopping	70.6	23.3	22.6	23.9	20.1	55.1	
Do part of the shopping	16.8	51.4	56.6	35.8	48.5	32.1	
Do none	12,2	24.7	19.8	40.1	31.4	12.4	
Not stated	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.2		0.5	
Γotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Part or all done by:							
Other elderly person in household	_	55.7	73.6	_	59.0	21.4	
Other person(s) in household	_	14.5(1)	-	72.0	25.7	5.7	
Person(s) outside							
Daughter/in law	11.5	4.0	_	4.9	0.9	7.9	
Other relative(s)	5.6	2.2	_	1.0	0.3	3.9	
Neighbour, friend	9.0	1.7	5.7	1.6	1.2	5.6	
A home help	5.1	0.7	_	0.8	0.6	3.0	
Other paid help	0.9	0.1	_	_	0.6	0.5	
Delivered	1.8	0.2	_	_	1.2	1.1	
Other, not stated	1.6	0.9	0.9	0.4	2.7	1.2	

⁽¹⁾ ie non-elderly spouse (it will be remembered that the category 'elderly married couple only' includes couples where one spouse is elderly as well as where both are elderly.)

As might be expected, those living on their own are more dependent on outside help. What is striking, however, is the much lower percentage in this group, and among housewives, who do none of the shopping. Presumably inability to cope with shopping is one factor which induces an elderly person to give up living on his or her own.

Elderly married couples and siblings appear for the most part to share the shopping with each other. Where a household includes one elderly person only together with non-elderly it is more usual for the shopping to be done by younger people. Where a household includes more than one elderly person together with younger people (this is usually an elderly couple with grown-up children) it is more usual for the shopping to be shared by the elderly.

We can summarise by saying that, taking into account the bedfast and housebound, over one-quarter of elderly persons do no household shopping. For some of these people this may well be a matter of choice within the household, so a better estimate of real difficulty can be made be taking, first, those living alone (including housebound and bedfast) who are wholly dependent on outside help. These amount to about five per cent of all ependent on outside help amount to roughly another five per cent. There are small numbers in other groups who appear to be wholly or partly dependent on outside help. These cannot be calculated exactly, but it appears.

reasonable to say that about 12 per cent of elderly persons in all need some help with shopping. At present most of this help is provided by relatives and friends.

10.14 Garden

We have shown that for over one-quarter of the elderly persons in our sample gardening is a major interest, but that, for both men and women, the percentage decreases sharply with age. A garden can be regarded as the responsibility of the household, so we asked about the household's ability to cope with the garden.

The situation is not the same when an elderly person is head of household as when a younger person is. In the first case the ultimate responsibility is that of the elderly person(s), in the latter that of the younger. We therefore first compare households with elderly and younger heads.

It is evident that the upkeep of the garden is a serious problem for households with elderly heads: nearly half of those with a garden have some difficulty at least. For younger heads the problem arises comparatively seldom: it may, in part at least, be due to inability of the elderly in the household to give any or much help.

It is also evident that, even when they have difficulty in coping with it, the great majority of those with a garden would be reluctant to give it up. The provision of assistance with gardening can be seen to be a highly

Table 10.14.1 Ability to manage garden (by type of head)

	Total	Households wit	h:
		Elderly heads	Younger heads
All households WEIGHTED	(2,920)	(2,705)	(215)
unweighted figures)	(1,975)	(1,811)	(164)
direct ingares,	%	%	%
Ability to manage garden		40,9	73.0
Can manage easily	43.2		13.5
Can manage with difficulty	21.7	22.4	1.4
Not at all	12.9	13.8	
Not stated	1.1	1.1	0.5
No garden	21.1	21.8	11.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Attitude to garden	70.8	69.7	83.7
Glad to have it	7.6	7.9	4.2
Would rather be without	0.5	0.6	0.5
Not stated	0.5		
No garden	21.1	21.8	11.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 10.14.2 Ability to manage garden (by sex and age of head)

	Sex of hea	d	Age of head		
	Man	Women	74 & under	75-84	85 & over
Households with elderly heads		(1.10()	(1,772)	(789)	(144)
WEIGHTED	(1,509)	(1,196)	(894)	(776)	(141)
unweighted figures)	(956) %	(855) %	%	%	%
Ability to manage garden		***	49.5	25.6	17.4
Can manage easily	50.4	28.8		24.1	20.1
Can manage with difficulty	22.7	22.0	21.8	21.3	33.3
Not at all	7.8	21.4	8.9	21.3	33.3
Not stated	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.2	0.7
No garden	18.2	26.5	18.6	27.8	28.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Attitude to garden			74.8	60.3	59.0
Glad to have it	74.5	63.7	6.1	11.4	11.1
Would rather be without	6.8	9.3	0.1	11.4	
Not stated	0.5	0,5	0.5	0.5	1.4
No garden	18.2	26.5	18.6	27.8	28.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

desirable form of help to the elderly. It might not be practicable or desirable to move those who would rathe without a garden to different accommodation, so leaving this out of account over one third of households with an elderly head require at least a modicum of help in the garden. It is reasonable to assume that help received at present was taken into account when answering the questions.

Because this is primarily a problem for households with elderly heads, the following paragraphs relate solely to such households. There are some pronounced differences between groups and, in view of the high proportion of households affected, we give details of a number of these.

As might be expected, women heads have more difficulty than men and older people more difficulty than younger people in coping with the garden. Although the groups which have most difficulty are more likely to say they would rather be without the garden, an overwhelming majority in all groups are glad of it.

Elderly people on their own include the highest proportion without a garden but they also include the highest proportion who need some help. The presence of younger people in the household, however, by no means obviates the need for help.

Although an appreciable proportion of owner-occupiers report difficulty in coping with the garden, they are

particularly enthusiastic about retaining it. The percentage of council tenants with a garden is lower than in any other group: those with a garden are less enthusiastic than any other group about retaining it. Working heads are much less likely to report difficulty (they are, of course, younger and healthier on average and include a higher proportion of men than the non-working heads).

The figures as a whole can be summarised by saying that a majority in all groups have a garden and that a majority of those with a garden want to keep it. Groups which include a higher than average percentage who would

rather be without a garden for the most part also include a higher than average percentage who have no garden. This possibly indicates that people who would rather be without take steps to move into accommodation without a garden.

Because so many elderly people who are attached to their gardens have difficulty in coping, it seems that help with gardening would be a particularly worthwhile form of assistance. Elderly people living alone and households with elderly women heads are specially in need.

Table 10.14.3 Ability to manage garden (by type of household)

	Type of he	ousehold			
	Elderly person alone	Elderly married couple	Elderly siblings only	Others— one elderly person	Others— more than one elderly
Households with elderly heads WEIGHTED					
(unweighted figures)	(1,144)	(996)	(54)	(360)	(151)
(unweighted rightes)	(809)	(626) %	(41)	(228)	(107)
Ability to manage the garden	70	76	%	%	%
Can manage easily	23.1	52.2	42.6	60.0	64.2
Can manage with difficulty	21.1	23.4	29.6	19.2	54.3 30.5
Not at all	22.8	6.4	13.0	8.1	7.9
				0.1	7.7
Not stated	1.5	0.6	3.3	1.5	
No garden	31.5	17.4	11.1	11.2	7.3
Total	100.0	0,001	100.0	100.0	100.0
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100,0
Attitude to garden					
Glad to have it	58.3	75.6	81.5	80.8	86.8
Would rather be without	9.5	6.5	7.4	7.5	6,0
No					
Not stated	0.7	0.5	_	0.5	_
No garden	31.5	17.4	11.1	11.2	7.3
Total	100.0				
i Otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 10.14.4 Ability to manage garden (by tenure of dwelling and employment status of head)

	Tenure				Employment	status (head)
	Own	Rent-council	Rent-private	Rent free	Working	NOT
Households with elderly heads						
WEIGHTED	(1,313)	(842)	(462)	Z0113	(0.00)	
unweighted figures)	(871)	(564)		(88)	(357)	(2,348)
annulghted figures)	% (0/1)		(316)	(60)	(196)	(1,615)
bility to manage the garden	7/6	%	%	%	%	%
an manage easily	48.4	31.1	37.2	40.9	60.2	37.9
an manage with difficulty	27.8	18.2	15.8	15.9	16.0	23.3
lot at all	11.4	16.7	15,4	12.5	4.8	15.2
				12.0	4.0	13.2
lot stated	2.1	0.2	0.7	1.2	2.8	0.0
		012	0.7	1.2	2.8	0.9
o garden	10.3	33.8	30.9	29.5		
	1015	33.0	30.9	29.3	16.2	22.7
'otal	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0		
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
ttitude to garden						
ilad to have it	83.6	53.9	(0.2			
Vould rather be without	5.7		60.2	63,6	79.3	68.3
oute rather be without	5.7	11.8	7.4	6.8	3.1	8.6
lot stated						
or stated	0.4	0.5	1.5		1.4	0.4
a and a						
o garden	10.3	33.8	30.9	29.5	16.2	22.7
otal	100.0	100.0	100.0	0,001	100.0	100,0

11 Visits from social services and similar bodies

11.1 Introduction

We asked all elderly persons whether each of a selected list of people from the health and social services and voluntary organisations!0 had called to see them (ie the elderly persons) during the past six months and, if so, how often the called.

The list consisted of twelve types of 'officials' and produced a vast amount of data. In this section we have tried to reduce this to an intelligible form, omitting extraneous detail.

Not all elderly people are in immediate need of such visits, particularly if there are other people in the household. We shall show, however, that some vulnerable groups do not appear always to be visited as much as seems desirable.

11.2 Visits received during past six months

Even among those living alone the extent of contact with the social services is limited. Later we examine each

(1) The insurance man was included in the list because he is known to be a frequent visitor at many homes. The nature of his business requires him to make contact with someone in the household and, possibly, become aware of an emergency. service individually and indicate how far those who appear to be in need are not in contact.

Although the number of divorced and separated people is comparatively small, this group consistently shows differences from other groups and it is unlikely that these would all arise by chance. It is noteworthy that this group is very much less likely than others to receive official' visitors. We have shown elsewhere that this group is least likely to receive (and make) visits from relatives. They thus appear to be most out of contact with people who might have some responsibility for them, either officially or as a result of kinship.

Not all elderly people by any means are in immediate need of visits by the people on the list. Bedfast and housebound, whether living alone or with others, ought, one would suppose, to be in contact with the social services, and the great majority of them are. However, other vulnerable groups (those aged 85 and over, those living alone) include appreciable proportions who have received no visitors.

The composition of the elderly population does not differ very greatly in the regions and in areas of different density, but the percentages who have received no visits vary considerably.

Table 11.2.1 Visits received during past six months (by type of household, condensed)

	Total	Type of house	ehold
		Live alone	Live with others
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(1,144)	(2,725)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(809)	(1,813)
(unweighted figures)	%	%	%
Visits received from:			
Doctor	33.3	28.4	35.5
Health visitor	4.4	5.6	3.8
District nurse	7.8	7.6	7.9
Home help	8.9	18.9	4.0
Council welfare officer(1)	4.9	5.9	3.0
Social security/supplementary benefits visiting			
officer	6.0	9.0	4.7
Meals on Wheels	2.6	6.4	1.0
Mobile library	2.8	2.8	2.9
Other official person	3.6	3.8	3.4
Voluntary organisation	2.7	2.8	2.6
Minister of religion	16.2	17.6	15.6
Insurance man	48.7	36.5	53.8
None of these	25.0	28.5	23.5
Insurance man is the only visitor	23.4	17.0	26.2

This term was not defined and may therefore include social services, housing and other local authority personnel.

Table 11.2.2 Elderly people who have received no visits during past six months in different sample groups

	, on po
Sex	%
Men	26.2
Women	24.2
Age	
65-74	26.8
75-84	21.6
85 and over	20.1
Marital status	
Married	22.6
Widowed	26.3
Single	28.3
Divorced, separated	49.4
Mobility	
Bedfast, housebound	6.9
Goes out	25.8
Standard region	
North	22.2
Yorkshire and Humberside	15.0
Northwest	24.4
E. Midlands and E. Anglia	24.1
West Midlands	31.7
Greater London	21.4
Southeast and Southwest	28.8
'Retirement areas'	27.5
Population density	
Greater London	21.4
Metropolitan counties	24,2
Non-metropolitan counties: high	21.2
medium	31.6
low	25.5
Persons in household	
One	28.5
Two	22.5
Three or more	27.1

11.3 Visits by doctor

The usual frequency of visiting was recorded. For example, if the doctor had called several times a week when an informant had flu, but usually called once a month, the latter was recorded.

Table 11.3.1 Frequency of visits by doctor during past six months

	%
Frequency	
At least once a week	1.5
About once a fortnight	1.7
About once a month	5.8
Every two or three months	6.8
Every four to six months	9.3
Varies, only when called	6.4
Not stated	2.0
Not called in past six months	66.6
Total	100.0

This should not be taken as showing the frequency with which elderly people ever see a doctor, because many of them will go to the surgery except when temporarily incapacitated by an acute illness (we show elsewhere the means by which they travel).

Comparatively few elderly (nine per cent) receive regular visits from the doctor as frequently as once a month. Groups where the percentage is appreciably higher are: those aged 85 and over (16.3 per cent); bedfast and housebound (27 per cent). It is appreciably lower among those aged 65–74 (5.8 per cent); those living in Greater London (4.6 per cent); those living alone (6.4 per cent).

Groups which include comparatively high proportions who have received at least one visit during the past six months are: those aged 85 and over (49.2 per cent); bedfast and housebound (71.3 per cent); those living in Yorkshire and Humberside (43.9 per cent). Those with low proportions are: those aged 65–74 (26.8 per cent); divorced and separated (21.2 per cent); those living in Greater London (23.1 per cent); those living alone (28.6 per cent).

11.4 Visits by health visitor

Only 4.4 per cent of elderly people have received a visit from a health visitor during the past six months and only 0.8 per cent receive visits as often as once a month.

Even among the bedfast and housebound the percentage who have received a visit only amounts to 21.8 per cent and only 4.1 per cent receive visits as often as once a month. Although they account for only 4.5 per cent of the elderly, 2.5 per cent of those receiving visits from a health visitor are bedfast or housebound. In no other group does the percentage who have received a visit amount to as many as ten per cent.

11.5 Visits by district nurse

7.8 per cent of elderly people have received a visit from a district nurse during the past six months. 4.1 per cent receive visits at least once a month.

Among those aged 85 and over 19.6 per cent have received a visit. 13.4 per cent receive visits at least once a month (4.3 per cent more than once a week).

Among bedfast and housebound 36.8 per cent have received a visit. 32.6 per cent receive visits at least once a month (14.9 per cent more than once a week). 21.1 per cent of those receiving visits from a district nurse are bedfast or housebound.

11.6 Visits by home help

The home help is in a different position from most of the other types of visitor, in that if she comes at all she will virtually always come at least once a week to elderly people. (2)

⁽²⁾ A survey carried out in 1967 (The Home Help Service in England Wales HMSO 1970) showed that home help was received less often than once a week by only one per cent of elderly recipients.

8.9⁽³⁾ per cent of elderly people have received visits from a home help during the past six months. 3.7 per cent receive more than one visit a week, 4.4 per cent one a week, 0.4 per cent one a fortnight. (The remaining 0.4 per cent gave vague answers).

15.8 per cent of those aged 75–84 and 27.3 per cent of those aged 85 and over receive home help. Other groups where the percentage is well above average are: widowed (15.2 per cent); bedfast and housebound (31.0 per cent: 19.0 per cent receive visits more than once a week); those living alone (18.9 per cent).

Home help is received by only 4.4 per cent of those aged 65–74, only 3.1 per cent of those living in two-person households and 2.7 per cent of those in households with three or more persons.

Although those groups who appear on the face of it to be in greatest need of home help are most likely to receive it, in all these groups a majority do not do so.

11.7 Visits by council welfare officer(4)

Only 3.9 per cent of elderly persons have been visited by a council welfare officer during the past six months.

Groups where the percentage is appreciably higher are: those aged 85 and over (8.1 per cent); bedfast or housebound (12.1 per cent); Greater London (6.8 per cent); those living alone (6.1 per cent).

The majority of such visits are less often than once a fortnight.

11.8 Visits by social security/supplementary benefits visiting officer

Six per cent have received visits from this officer during the past six months.

The percentage is appreciably higher among: those aged 85 and over (10.5 per cent); divorced and separated (12.9 per cent); bedfast and housebound (15.5 per cent); Greater London (10.4 per cent); those living alone (nine per cent).

A majority of visits are at intervals of more than 3 months.

11.9 Visits from Meals on Wheels

2.6 per cent have received Meals on Wheels during the past six months.

(5) The 1967 survey showed that 6.1 per cent of elderly housewise were receiving help at that time. The figures are not directly comparable because the approach was different. Many elderly couples (or sblings) in the present survey regard the home help as visiting both of them—as, indeed, in the context of the question she is, although technically home help is provided for the housewife.

(4) See note to Table 11.2.1

The percentage is appreciably higher among: those aged 85 and over (11.5 per cent); bedfast and housebound (12.1 per cent); those living alone (6.4 per cent).

All those who gave a specific answer receive Meals on Wheels at least once a week.

11.10 Visits from mobile library

Only 2.8 per cent have received visits from a mobile library.

The only group which is appreciably better off is that in East Midlands and East Anglia (6.7 per cent).

11.11 Visits from other official persons

3.6 per cent have been visited by other officials: too few for comment, except to say that among bedfast and housebound the figure is 12.1 per cent.

11.12 Visits from voluntary organisations

2.7 per cent have been visited by people from voluntary organisations: among bedfast and housebound the figure is 9.2 per cent.

11.13 Visits from insurance man

There is no reason why an insurance man should visit the more vulnerable groups more than the less vulnerable: rather the reverse, because very old people are less likely to take out endowment and similar policies. However, even in these groups we found the insurance man to be a more frequent visitor than most. The percentage in each age-group who have been visited by an insurance man during the past six months are: 65-744: 54.6 per cent; 75-84: 41.1 per cent; 85 and over 16.3 per cent. Thus, even for the oldest age group he is more likely to have visited them than any of the health and welfare people except the doctor, district nurse and home help. For the two younger groups he is the most likely visitor of all (apart from the doctor to the 75-84 group).

10.6 per cent of all elderly are visited once a week and 20.5 per cent once a fortnight. Those elderly who are visited by an insurance man are likely to see him more often than most, if not all, the health and welfare people.

11.14 Visits from minister of religion

16.2 per cent of all elderly have been visited by a minister of religion within the past six months.

For men, the figure is 13.0 per cent, compared with 18.4 per cent for women.

For those aged 65–74, the figure is 14.1 per cent: for those aged 75 and over 20.5 per cent (there is virtually no difference between the two oldest age groups).

Other groups where the percentage receiving visits is well above average are: single people (2.6.0 per cent); bedfast and housebound (26.4 per cent); those living in the North (26.2 per cent) and the Northwest (22.7 per cent). It is below average in Greater London (8.9 per cent) and in the West Midlands (9.9 per cent), and among divorced and separated people (9.4 per cent).

2.2 per cent of elderly receive visits from ministers once

a fortnight or more often; 3.1 per cent at monthly intervals and the rest less frequently. Bedfast and house-bound are visited more often; 5.7 per cent at least once a fortnight.

Although only about one in six receive visits from ministers, that proportion is greater than any of the health and social services personnel (except doctors).

12 Social contacts

12.1 Introduction

Much has been said and written about the increasing isolation and loneliness among elderly people. These have been attributed to increased longevity, greater population movement, the lessening of family ties, rehousing and other factors.

We asked a number of questions designed to find out the extent to which elderly people live in isolation and which groups are the most in need of help in this respect.

This section of the questionnaire began with some questions relating to length of residence in the neighbourhood. This has an indirect bearing on the question of isolation because people who have been uprooted late in life may find it difficult to establish new roots.

Our investigations into moving home were necessarily imited by considerations of time and also by the likelihood that many elderly people's recollections of their motives for moving many years ago might be inaccurate. We therefore asked only those who had lived for less than ten years in their present area about the area in which they had previously lived and about their reasons for moving. This means that roughly speaking only the younger elderly who moved on retirement are covered, but changes in social conditions in recent years would probably render any forecasts unreliable if they were based on the experiences of the very old.

12.2 Length of residence in present neighbourhood

Informants were asked how long they had lived in their present neighbourhood. The interpretation of 'neighbourhood' was left to the informant, because of the impossibility of finding a definition that would cover all contingencies. For example, a move of a mile or two from a central to a suburban area may represent a complete change of environment.

It is noteworthy that four-fifths of elderly people have lived in the same neighbourhood for ten years or more. The differences (which are not great) between men and women in this respect can be accounted for by their different age composition. It seems legitimate to assume that most of the movement within the past ten years of those aged 65–74 may be accounted for by retirement moves, while for those aged 85 and over to causes such as increasing infirmity or loss of spouse. The higher percentage of those aged 75–84 who have lived in the same area for ten years or more and the lower percentages of widowed and divorced seem to bear out this hypothesis.

It is noteworthy that 'retirement areas' (which by definition include higher proportions of elderly) and the south of England, to a lesser extent, include high proportions of elderly who have moved there comparatively recently. The same is true of areas of medium and, to a lesser extent, low population density.

Table 12.2.1 Length of residence in present neighbourhood (by sex, age and marital status)

	WEIGHTED	Unweighted		Duration of residence						
	bases	figures		Less than 2 years	2 years less than 5	5 years less than 10	10 years or more	Not stated		
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	3.9	5.4	10.1	80.5	0.2 = 100		
Sex										
Men	(1,540)	(994)	%	3.8	4.5	10.3	81.3	_		
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	3.9	5.9	10.0	79.9	0.3		
Age										
65-74	(2,571)	(1,354)	%	4.4	5,3	10.3	79.9	0.1		
75-84	(1,089)	(1,063)		2.3	5.0	10.0	82.2	0.5		
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	5.8	7.7	8.1	78.5	-		
Marital status										
Married	(2,029)	(1,297)	%	4.0	5.9	9.5	80.4	0.3		
Widowed	(1,451)	(1,069)	%	4.1	4.6	11.9	79.4	0.1		
Single	(304)	(208)	%	2.3	4.3	6.2	87.2			
Divorced etc	(85)	(48)	%	3.6	9.4	9.4	77.6			

Table 12.2.2 Percentages who have lived for less than ten years in their present neighbourhood in different regions and in areas of different population density

Region	%	Population density	%	
Northern	15.8	Greater London	12.3	
Yorkshire & Humberside	19.1	Metropolitan counties	15.3	
Northwest	13.8	Non-metropolitan:		
Fast Midlands & East Anglia	16.9	High density	16.3	
West Midlands	15.8	Medium	31.3	
Greater London	12.3	Low	20.9	
Southeast & Southwest	22.2			
'Retirement areas'	36.9			

However, regional movements are more revealing when considered in the context of where elderly people move from and to where they go. The following tables are confined to those who have moved within the past ten years. Although some base figures are small they are shown in detail because combining some tends to obscure the nature of the movements. Percentages in brackets should be treated with reserve.

Most of the movements of elderly people during the past ten years occurred within region: it is comparatively rare for them to move to distant parts of the country.

12.3 Reasons for choice of neighbourhood

Elderly people who had moved within the past ten years were asked why they had moved to the particular neighbourhood in which they live at present. Three are differences between the answers given by people living in different regions which are in many cases significant in spite of the small numbers involved.

The desire or need to be near relatives seems to have two different aspects. Where it involves moving to an area least considered desirable (Greater London) it may be

Table 12.2.3 Former region of residence (by present region)

	Total	Present r	egion						
		N	Yorks & Humb	NW	E Mid & E Angl.	West Mid.	Greater London	SE & SW	'Ret. areas'
Movers in past ten years WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(748) (502)	(39) (28)	(69) (50)	(78) (56)	(88) (64)	(61) (43)	(58) (37) %	(186) (128)	(169) (96)
Former region									
Northern	6.1	(76.9)	14.5	2.6	_	()	(3.4)	1.1	_
Yorkshire & Humberside	10.2	(5.1)	85.5	2.6	_	()	(—)	1.1	6.5
Northwest	8.3	(5.1)	_	67.9	_	()	()	1.6	2.4
East Midlands	11.0	(—)	_	_	69.3	(3.3)	()	_	11.2
East Anglia	1.1	()	_	_	4.5	(3.3)	(—)	_	1.2
Greater London	17.9	()	_	_	13.6	(3.3)	(56.9)	23.7	25.4
Rest of Southeast	19.7	()	_	3.8	6.8	(1.6)	(12.1)	43.5	29.0
Southwest	6.6	()	_	2.6	_	(—)	(1.7)	15.6	10.1
West Midlands	9.0	(2.6)	_	3.8	_	(77.0)	(5.2)	3.8	3.6
Wales	1.2	(—)		5.1	_	(3.3)	(—)	1.6	_
Scotland	1.3	(5.1)	-	3.8	2.3	(1.6)	(1.7)	0.5	-
Abroad (including Ireland)	3.1	(2.6)	_	2.6	3.4	(3.3)	(3.4)	0.5	7.1
Unidentifiable, not stated	4.5	(2.6)	_	5.1	_	(3.3)	(15.5)	7.0	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 12.3.1 Reasons for moving to present neighbourhood (by present region)

	Total	Present region							
		North	Yorks & Humb.	NW	E Mid. & E Angl.	West Mid.	Greater London	SE & SW	'Ret. areas
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Reasons									
To be near relatives	40.0	(35.9)	27.5	42.3	31.8	(29.5)	(48.3)	47.3	42.0
Council offered accommodation	18.7	(46.2)	56.5	20.5	21.6	(24.6)	(17.2)	9.1	3.6
Health reasons	14.0	(17.9)	20.3	9.0	4.5	(11.5)	(17.2)	14.0	17.8
Like the type of area	12.7	(—)	2.9	6.4	14.8	(11.5)	`(—)	10.2	29.0
Other reasons, vague answers,									
not stated	34.3	(12.9)	24.6	37.1	31.8	(36.0)	(25.9)	38.2	41.4

because of the need or possible future need of the support of relatives. Where it involves moving to a desirable area (eg retirement areas) it may be because relatives who have already moved to such areas have reported favourably on them.

The percentage of women who give the reason to be near relatives' is significantly higher than the corresponding percentage of men (44.3 per cent, compared with 33.0 per cent of men).

12.4 Living alone

We next asked those living on their own how long they had been living alone. Before considering their answers it is useful to look at their sex and age composition (they account for 29.6 per cent of all elderly).

Compared with the whole sample they include a much higher proportion of women (78.9 per cent compared with 60.2 per cent) and of those aged 75 and over (43.6 per cent compared with 33.5 per cent). 82.8 per cent are widowed compared with 37.5 per cent of the whole sample.

Over a third of those living alone have done so for ten years or more. The proportion is higher among women than among men, and, as might be expected, among the older than among the younger.

Table 12.4.1 Sex and age composition of elderly

		Total
Elderly v	who live alone WEIGHTED	(1,144)
	ited figures)	(809)
Composi	tion	
Men	65-74	13.1
	75-84	6.6
	85 and over	1.3
	Total men	21.1
Women	65-74	43.2
	75-84	29.0
	85 and over	6.7
	Total women	78.9
	Grand total	100.0

The high proportion of single people who have lived alone for ten years or more is worth noting. This cannot be attributed to the high proportion of women in the group, because the percentage of single people who have lived alone for ten years or more is almost as high as that of women aged 85 and over living alone (60.4 per cent compared with 63.6 per cent). It seems possible that many of the single elderly have lived alone since the death of parents with whom they used to live.

Table 12.4.2 Length of time alone (by sex, age and marital status)

	Total	Sex		Age			Marital sta	tus(1)	
		Men	Women	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Widowed	Single	Divorced etc
The state of the state of	-								
Elderly who live alone WEIGHTED	(1,144)	(241)	(903)	(644)	(408)	(92)	(947)	(149)	(45)
(unweighted figures)	(809)	(164)	(645)	(313)	(406)	(90)	(679)	(101)	(26)
(unweighted figures)	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Number of years alone									
Less than one	4.8	3.4	5.3	5.6	4.2	3.3	5.4	2.7	(—)
One but less than two	3.2	5.4	2.7	3.1	3.7	2.2	3.7	1.3	(—)
Two but less than five	15.6	19.9	14.5	17.1	14.7	9.8	17.7	6.7	(—)
Five but less than ten	20.8	25.3	19.6	23.6	18.9	9.8	21.8	17.4	(13.3)
Ten or more	38.5	29.5	40.9	31.7	44.1	60.9	34.3	60.4	(55.6)
									21.1
Not stated	17.0	16.6	17.1	18.9	14.5	14.1	17.4	11.4	31.1
							100.0	100.0	100.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

^{(1) 3} married persons were living alone

12.5 Duration of widowhood

Widows and widowers were asked how long they had been widowed. Because of the different longevity of men and women, we show age groups separately for men and women. The number of widowers aged 85 and over is small, so percentages should be treated with reserve.

Apart from those who never marry and those whose marriages end in divorce it is in the nature of things that virtually half the rest of the population will survive their spouses. Not all the survivors will live long enough to

become elderly, but the above figures show that, of those who do, nearly half will survive their spouses by 10 years or more. Among women who survive till age 85 or more, three quarters will do so.

We have shown that 82.8 per cent of those who live alone are widowed. Looking at the other side of the picture, 65.3 per cent of widowed persons live alone.

It can be calculated that one-quarter of the whole elderly population consists of widowed persons living alone, of whom one-third will have done so for ten years or more.

Table 12.5.1 Duration of widowhood (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men-ag	ge			Women—age			
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
Widowed persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,451) (1,069)	(297) (216) %	(155) (78) %	(114) (110) %	(28) (28) %	(1,154) (853) %	(573) (285) %	(453) (443) %	(128) (125) %
Ouration of widowhood								2.6	2.4
ess than one year	5.1	7.4	7.8	7.9	(3.6)	4.4	5.6	3.6	2.4
ne but less than two	3.9	5.7	5.2	6.1	(7.1)	3.4	4.4	2.9	0.8
wo but less than five	16.7	20.2	23.2	15.8	(21.4)	15.9	20.1	13.2	6.2
ive but less than ten	22.0	23.9	25.8	25.4	(7.1)	21.5	25.0	19.9	11.7
en or more	48.2	37.7	31.6	43.0	(50.0)	50.9	40.8	56.5	75.8
Not stated	4.2	5.1	6.5	1.8	10.7	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

On average, duration of widowhood is appreciably longer than that of living alone, presumably because many people become widowed while one or more of their children are still living with them.

The percentages with living relatives in households of different sizes are:

	%
One person	95.8
Two persons	95.5
Three or more	89.9

12.6 Duration of divorce or separation

Comparatively few (2.2 per cent) of elderly persons are divorced or separated. 89.4 per cent have been so for ten years or more. 52.9 per cent live alone.

Single people, of course, can have no in-laws and divorced and separated people are more likely than widowed to lose touch with former in-laws.⁽¹⁾

12.7 Living close relatives

There is still some strength in family ties and often the first people to turn to in an emergency are relatives. Informants were therefore asked whether they have any close living relatives (apart from those in the same household, if they lived with relatives). The interpretation of 'close relative' was left to the informant, since more than close consanguinity is involved. For example, a second cousin who is on friendly terms may seem much closer than a brother or sister who has emigrated and completely lost touch.

94.7 per cent say they have living close relatives. Sex, age and regional differences are very slight, but those between people of different marital status and mobility are quite marked.

	Have close relatives
	%
Marital status	
Married	96.4
Widowed	94.9
Single	87.5
Divorced, separated	77.6
Mobility	
Bedfast, housebound	86.8
Able to go out	95.1

The differences cannot be entirely accounted for by the exclusion of relatives in the household and the different percentages of the above groups who live with relatives.

12.8 Visits from relatives

Informants with living relatives were asked: 'How often do any of your relatives manage to visit you?' The object here was to find out how often contacts were made and therefore several visits from one relative were recorded in the same way as one visit from each of several relatives.

Age and sex of informants make little difference to the frequency with which visits are received.

The differences between mobility groups, marital status and size of household groups are quite pronounced. We show divorced and separated people separately, although the number is small, because here and in a number of other places they differ quite markedly from other groups⁽²⁾.

The percentages who have living relatives do not differ greatly between regions. However, there are some marked differences in the frequency of receiving visits.

For reasons of space, we present regional figures with percentages reading across.

(1) See Families and their needs (HMSO 1973)

(2) A survey caried out in 1970—71 (Families and their Needs HMSO) showed that, in each of five areas, divorced and separated mohest were less likely than vidowed mothers to have (maintained) contact with their in-laws, Additionally, in the present survey some of the divorced and separated people may not have had custody of any children of the marriage and thereby lost contact with these as well.

Table 12.8.1 Overall frequency of visits from relatives (by marital status, mobility and size of household)

	Total	Marital s	tatus			Mobility		Persons in household		
		Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced	B'fast, house bound	Goes out	One	Two	Three
All clderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(2,029) (1,297) %	(1,451) (1,069) %	(304) (208) %	(85) (48) %	(174) (150) %	(3,695) (2,472) %	(1,144) (809)	(2,120) (1,406) %	(605) (407) %
Frequency of visits Several times a week	32.9	33.3	37.4 20.1	13.8	16.5 15.3	25.9 24.7	33.3 21.3	39.0 19.3	32.3 22.9	23.8
At least once a week About once a fortnight	21.5 6.8	24.0 7.6	6.4 8.1	3.6	3.5 3.5	5.2	6.8	5.9	7.4	6.1 7.8
About once a month Less often	8.6 19.9	9.5 18.5	18.3	34.5	25.9	19.5	19.9	18.1	19.1	26.1
Never	5.0	3.4	4.6	16.4	12.9	8.0	4.9	6.4	4.2	5.8
No living relatives outside household	5.3	3.6	5.1	12.5	22.4	13.2	4.9	4.2	4.5	10.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 12.8.2. Overall frequency of visits from relatives (by standard region and population density)

	Elderly							No living		
	persons WEIGHTED	ted figures		Several a week	Once a week	Once a fortnight	Once a month	Less Often	Never	relatives
Standard region									4.8	4.4=100.6
North	(248)	(164)		29.4	22.2	8.9	6.0	24.2		2.9
Yorks & Humberside	(380)	(268)		42.4	22.9	7.6	6.8	14.7	2.6	4.4
Northwest	(565)	(383)		35.8	22.8	5.0	6.9	19.8	5.3	
E Mids & E Anglia	(522)	(356)		37.2	21.8	5.2	7.5	18.8	3.8	5.7
W Midlands	(385)	(257)	%	37.7	27.0	9.9	6.2	9.4	4.9	4.9
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%	24.6	19.7	6.8	12.1	19.3	11.4	6.1
SE & SW	(839)	(575)	%	34.8	18.7	7.4	9.7	21.1	3.1	5.2
'Retirement areas'	(458)	(306)	%	19.9	19.9	5.2	11.6	30.3	5.4	7.6
All regions	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	32.9	21.5	6.8	8.6	19.9	5.0	5.3
Population density										
Greater London	(472)	(313)		24.6	19.7	6.8	12.1	19.3	11.4	6.1
Metropolitan counties Non metropolitan counties:	(974)	(666)	%	37.5	26.0	7.0	5.3	15.3	4.9	4.0
High	(496)	(337)	%	33.3	28.6	6.0	7.1	17.1	4.0	3.8
medium	(550)	(365)		28.5	20.9	7.5	12.0	19.1	4.3	7.6
low	(1,377)	(941)		34.2	16.5	6.6	9.0	24.6	3.6	5.4

By the criterion of having no living relatives plus never receiving visits, Londoners are worst off. If we take into account frequency of visiting, those in 'retirement areas' are as badly off. London is an area from which younger people are tending to move, retirement areas are places to which older people tend to move. Both forms of movement contribute to increasing the distance between older people and their younger relatives.

12.9 Relatives who visit most often

There are some differences between the kinds of relatives who visit men and women of different ages. We therefore show them separately.

Many of the differences between the relatives who visit elderly people of different ages can be accounted for, partly if not entirely, by survival rates. For example, people aged 85 and over are less likely to have surviving siblings than are younger people.

It is interesting that men are less likely than women to have visits from adult grandchildren and nephews and nieces.

Differences between married and widowed people are not great. Those between single and others can be explained by the fact that most single people have no children. The high percentages who receive visits from adult nephews and nieces and cousins do not wholly compensate for this. We have already commented on the loss of contact experienced by divorced and separated people.

The lower level of visiting bedfast and housebound by almost all kinds of relatives is not entirely accounted for by the higher percentage who have no relatives. Those who do receive visits receive them from fewer types of relatives (1.8 on average, compared with 2.2 among those who go out). This is not an exact comparison, because it takes no account of numbers, but it appears

Table 12.9.1 Relatives who visit most frequently (by age within sex of elderly)

	Grand total	Men—ag	e			Women-age			
	totai	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622)	(1,540) (994)	(1,101) (565)	(384) (375)	(55) (54)	(2,329) (1,628)	(1,470) (789)	(705) (688)	(154) (151)
Relatives who visit most often			,,,			/t	70	н	76
Daughters/in law	49.6	51.2	50.9	52.1	52.7	48.5	49.6	47.0	45.5
Sons/in law	44.5	45.9	46.4	45.1	41.8	43.6	44.1	41.6	48.1
Sisters/in law	28.3	27.4	30.0	21.4	18.2	28.8	32.9	24.1	11.0
Brothers/in law	16.1	17.3	19.0	13.3	12.7	15.3	18.3	11.3	5.2
Grandchildren (adults)	13.8	11.0	9.1	15.1	20.0	15.6	11.9	19.6	33.1
Grandchildren under 16	18.7	19.4	21.3	15.4	9.1	18.2	21.2	13.0	13.6
Nephews/nieces (adults)	13.6	10.7	8.4	12.0	30.9	15.9	14.0	17.9	24.7
Nephews/nieces under 16	2.1	1.6	1.8	.8	1.8	2.4	2.7	1.6	3.9
Other relatives	5.0	3,5	4.9	2.4	5.5	5.7	4.9	6.2	10.9
Never visit	5.0	5.5	5.4	5.9	5.5	4.7	4.1	5.7	7.1
No living close relatives	5.3	5.5	5.0	7.0	5.5	5.1	4.3	6.3	7.8

Table 12.9.2 Relatives who visit most frequently (by marital status and mobility of elderly)

	Marital s	Mobility				
	Married	Widowe	d Single	Divorced	Bedfast, house- bound	Goes out
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(2,029)	(1,451)	(304)	(85)	(174)	(3,695)
(unweighted figures)	(1,297)	(1,069)	(208)	(48) %	(150)	(2,472)
Relatives who visit most often	74	-70	70	7/0	70	70
Daughters/in law	57.1	50.0	1.3	35.3	37.4	50.2
Sons/in law	49.8	47.2	0.3	31.8	32.2	45.1
Sisters/in law	29.4	26.2	32.2	22.4	17.8	28.7
Brothers/in law	17.8	13.2	20.1	11.8	9.2	16.5
Grandchildren (adults)	12.1	19.3	0.7	7.1	12.6	13.8
Grandchildren under 16	22.8	17.2	1.0	9.4	6.9	19.2
Nephews, nieces (adults)	10.7	14.7	29.6	5.9	15.5	13.5
Nephews, nieces, under 16	2.0	2.2	3.0	_	2.3	2.1
Other relatives	3.3	5.0	16.8(1)	5.9	5.7	5.1
None visit	3.4	4.6	16.4	12.9	8.0	4.9
No living relatives	3.6	5.1	12.5	22.4	13.2	4.9

^{(1) 12.2} per cent of these are cousins

justified in the light of the lower frequency of visiting already mentioned.

Differences between visitors to people living in different parts of the country and in households of different size are mainly those which follow from the different frequencies of receiving visits. In all these, daughters/in law and sons/in law are in the leading positions.

It is worth bearing in mind that elderly people who live with others may nevertheless wish to receive visits from relatives not living with them. We deal with this point in the next paragraph and later we summarise receiving and making visits to relatives and friends.

12.10 Desire for more frequent visits from relatives

All those with living relatives were asked 'Are there any (other) relatives who would visit you (more often) if it weren't for the expense?' 'Are there any (other) relatives you would like to visit you (more often)?'

The questions were asked in this way because at the pilot stage some interviewers reported that a few elderly people showed signs of distress because of feeling neglected and it helped their self-esteem to be able to attribute failure to visit them to the expense.

23.3 per cent say that some relatives would visit (more often) if it were not for the expense.

26.8 per cent would like some relatives to visit (more often).

In interpreting the figures it must be remembered that a particular relative or relatives may already be visiting, but less often than desired, or may not be visiting at all. In other words, the figures represent elderly people who feel the lack of visits, or more frequent visits, from some relatives.

Table 12.10.1 Percentages of elderly in each group (a) have relatives who would visit (more often) were it not for expense;

(b) would like some relatives to visit (more often)

	Have relatives who would visit (more often) if it were not for the expense	Would like s relatives to v (more often)
All elderly	% 23.7	% 26.8
All class of		
Sex	210	26.1
Men	24.9 22.9	27.2
Women	22.9	21.2
Age		
65-74	24.7	25.1
75-84	22.5	28.8
85 and over	18.2	36.4
Marital status		
Married	24.3	24.6
Widowed	22.8	27.7
Single	22.0	33.2
Divorced, etc	29.4	38.8
Mobility		
Bedfast, housebound	29.9	42.5
Goes out	23.4	26.0
Persons in household		
One	21.2	25.6
Two	23.5	25.8
Three or more	29.1	32.2
Standard region		
North	26.6	15.3
Yorks & Humberside	19.2	19.7
Northwest	21.4	23.0
E Midlands & E Anglia	24.3	28.2
W Midlands	21.8	26.0
Greater London	23.5	26.7
Southeast & Southwest	26.8 24.0	30.5 35.6
'Retirement areas'	24.0	33.0
Population density		
Greater London	23.5	26.7
Metropolitan counties	20.7	22.5
Non-metropolitan counties:	17.0	25.6
high	17.9	25.6 30.2
medium	29.8 25.5	28.8
low	23.3	20.0

The two sets of figures are not cumulative nor can they be subtracted. An elderly person may not always particularly want to see a relative who does not come (more often) because of the expense. On the other hand they may do so and, additionally, may want to see someone who cannot come for other reasons.

What can be deduced from the figures is that, for most groups of elderly people, there are some relatives who do not visit who are deterred by reasons other than expense.

It is also apparent that, whatever the reasons, over a quarter of elderly people would like to have (more) visits from relatives. The proportion is above average among the very old, single, and divorced people, the bedfast and housebound (particularly so), those living in households containing three or more people and those living in retirement areas. It is interesting that those living alone

do not show an above-average level of desire for more frequent visits. It seems that living with some members of one's family does not lessen an elderly person's desire to see others. Very few housebound and bedfast people live alone, yet this is the group which most feels the desire for most visits.

It seems that some of those who have moved to 'retirement areas' have, by so doing, paid the price of fewer visits than they would like from their relatives.

Nearly all those who would like more visits mention one or more of the following: daughters/in law (7.0 per cent); sons/in law (5.2 per cent); sisters/in law (7.3 per cent); brothers/in law (2.9 per cent). The numbers are too small to detect differences between groups.

Table 12.10.2 Reasons why relatives do not visit

(more offen)	
	%
Reasons	
Lives abroad	16.4
Lives too far away (in Great Britain)	47.9
Family commitments	19.0
Work commitments	17.7
Health problems, old age	24.6
Other specific reasons	6.0
Too busy (nothing further)	4.8
Doesn't want to come	4.5
No reason given (including proxies)	7.4

It seems that for many relatives who do not (often) visit there is a question of priorities. There is little evidence of positive neglect (although possibly elderly people might not mention this specifically).

12.11 Help given by relatives

In an attempt to form some idea of the amount of withinfamily help given by relatives when they visit, we asked: 'Are your relatives able to do anything to help you when they visit?'

An attempt was also made to find out what sort of help was given, but many answers were in general terms and others merely repeated information already given in answer to specific questions. This was not considered to add greatly to our information and has not been analysed. The important finding here is the proportion of elderly people who receive some help from relatives as well as the social benefits of their company.

The following percentages who do receive some help are based on all elderly people, so that those who do not receive help may not do so because visiting relatives do not help or because they receive no visits.

Women are more likely to receive help than men. Other differences follow the pattern which might be expected: older are more likely to receive help than younger, those

Table 12.11.1 Percentage of elderly in each group who receive help from visiting relatives

	Receive help from relatives
	%
All elderly people	41.5
Sex	
Men	35.4
Women	45.6
Age	
65-74	36.9
75-84	50.0
85 and over	54.5
Persons in household	
One	56.6
Two	38.0
Three or more	25.3
Household status	
Housewife	47.5
Non-housewife	32.4

living alone than those living with others and housewives than non-housewives.

Without more detailed investigation than time permitted it is not possible to comment on those who do not receive help from relatives. It cannot be said whether this is due to unwillingness on the part of the visitors or a reluctance on the part of the elderly person to receive it. (A few informants spontaneously made the comment no need for help' but this information cannot be quantified.)

12.12 Visits from friends

All elderly people were asked: 'Do any friends ever come to see you here?'

The question was asked in this form because we found at the pilot stage that the word 'visit' had formal implications for some elderly people and we were anxious to include casual 'dropping in' as well as pre-arranged and lengthier visits. In this report we use the word 'visits' for

Table 12.12.1 Percentage of elderly in each group who receive visits from friends

	Receive visits from friends
	%
Marital status	
Married	71.8
Widowed	69.3
Single	76.0
Divorced, separated	78.8
Mobility	
Bedfast, housebound	52.9
Goes out	72.2
Region	
Northern	74.2
Yorkshire & Humberside	70.8
Northwest	63.5
E Midlands & E Anglia	75.9
W Midlands	69.9
Greater London	63.6
Southeast & Southwest	74.9
'Retirement areas'	77.3
Population density	
Greater London	63.6
Metropolitan Counties	67.4
Non-metropolitan counties:	
high	71.2
medium	70.0
low	77.3
Persons in household	
One	73.2
Гwo	73.4
Three or more	60.5

the sake of brevity to cover all types of calls from friends (we did not attempt to differentiate).

The percentage who have visits from friends is lower than the percentage who have visits from relatives (71.3 per cent compared with 89.7 per cent).

The differences between men and women and between those in different age groups are small. Other groups show more dissimilarities.

It is interesting that the single and divorced, who are less likely than married and widowed to receive visits from

Table 12.12.2 Age groups of friends who visit (by age and mobility of elderly)

	Total	otal Age				Mobility		
		65-74	75-84	85 & over	Bedfast, house- bound	Goes		
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(2,571)	(1,089)	(209)	(174)	(3,695)		
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(1,354)	(1,063)	(205)	(150)	(2,472)		
	%	%	%	%	%	%		
Visitors are:								
People about own age	55.1	60.7	46.6	29.7	33.3	56.1		
Younger adults	38.1	36.4	39.7	51.2	33.9	38.3		
Teenagers	5.1	5.6	4.0	3.8	3.4	5.2		
Children	5.9	6.5	4.9	3.8	2.3	6.0		
Older people	0.9	1.1	0.3	_	_	0.8		
No visitors	28.7	27.2	31.7	31.6	47.1	27.8		

relatives, are more likely to receive visits from friends. By contrast, the bedfast and housebound are less likely than those able to go out to receive visits from either. So too are those living in households of three or more persons. Regional differences in the extent to which friends visit do not follow the same pattern as that in respect to relatives, but the percentage who receive visits is lowest in Greater London in both cases.

We next asked: 'Are (friends who call) people of about your own age, younger adults, teenagers, children, any other particular kinds of people?' (Informants could, of course, give more than one answer).

Here differences between the answers given by different groups are largely an artefact of the extent to which they receive visits at all, except for age differences and those between the bedfast and housebound and the more mobile.

It is only to be expected that older people will be less likely to receive visits from people of their own age, because fewer people survive to that age. Teenagers and children (apart from their own relatives) are not very likely to visit elderly people.

12.13 Desire for (more) visits from friends

We then asked: 'Would you like (more) friends to come to see you?'

14.9 per cent say they would like more friends to come. There is a sharp rise with increasing age: 12.8 per cent of those aged 65–74 give this answer, compared with 18.2 per cent of those aged 75–84 and 24.4 per cent of those aged 85 and over. Although there is little difference between the answers given by men and women in total, among the small group of men aged 85 and over the percentage is 36.4 per cent which is significantly higher than for any other sex-age group.

Other significant differences are: between bedfast and housebound and the more mobile (36.2 per cent and 13.9 per cent); those living in households consisting of one person, two persons, three or more persons (15.2 per cent, 13.1 per cent and 20.7 per cent respectively); those who already receive visits and those who do not (12.3 per cent and 20.7 per cent).

Not unnaturally, the groups less likely to receive visits at present are frequently more likely to want to receive them. The high percentage of bedfast and housebound who express a desire for this form of social contact must give particular cause for concern.

8.8 per cent of all elderly (59.3 per cent of those who would like (more) visits) would like visits from people of their own age. 5.1 per cent (34.5 per cent) would like visits from younger adults. Comparatively few desire visits from teenagers or children.

12.14 Help given by friends

The final question in the section dealing with personal visitors was: 'Are your friends able to do anything to help you when they come?'

8.3 per cent of all elderly people say that their friends do things to help them when they come. 9.7 per cent of women, compared with 6.3 per cent of men, give this answer. The percentage is also higher among those aged 85 and over (11.0 per cent), among housewives (10.8 per cent) and among those living alone (13.7 per cent).

When asked what was done, informants tended to give unspecific anwers or to repeat information already obtained from specific questions about personal and domestic tasks. Detailed analysis was therefore not undertaken.

12.15 Visits to relatives and friends

The bedfast and housebound were, naturally, not asked whether they ever go to see relatives or friends. In order to facilitate comparisons they are included in the base figures and are shown separately from those who are mobile but visit neither.

The decrease with age in the extent to which visits are made is very marked and is by no means wholly accounted for by the lower mobility of the upper age groups. We have already said that there is not a great deal of difference between age groups in the extent to which they have close relatives living or the extent to which they receive visits from relatives and friends, so that the lower proportions of the upper age groups who make visits indicates a decrease overall in this form of social contact between relatives and friends.

To some extent the lower percentages of single and divorced people who visit relatives is compensated by higher percentages who visit friends, but the percentages who visit neither are higher than among the married and widowed.

Regional variations are not very consistent but the three regions with the lowest percentages who visit friends (Northern, Greater London and the Northwest) also include the lowest percentages who visit relatives.

We have shown that elderly people living in households containing three or more persons are less likely than those in smaller households to receive visits from relatives or friends. They are also less likely to make visits. Such elderly people probably do not suffer from loneliness in the way that those living on their own who neither make nor receive visits must do, but their social contacts outside their immediate family are limited. We have also shown that this group is more likely than many others to want (more) visits from relatives and friends.

Table 12.15.1 Visits made by clderly to friends and relatives (by sex, age, marital status, region, population density and size of household)

	Total WEIGHTED	Unweigh ted figur		Visit relatives	Visit friends	Visit neither	B'fast, h'bound	
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	77.5	54.9	10.7	4.5	
Sex								
Men	(1,540)	(994)	9/6	78.9	54.4	11.1	3.4	
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	76.6	55.2	10.5	5.2	
Age								
65-74	(2,571)	(1,354)	%	83.6	61.1	7.9	1.8	
75-84	(1,089)	(1,063)	9/6	67.7	44.5	16.0	7.9	
85 and over	(209)	(205)	%	51.1	31.5	18.7	20.6	
Marital status								
Married	(2,029)	(1,297)	%	81.6	54.7	9.5	3.4	
Widowed	(1,451)	(1,069)	%	75.9	53.0	10.4	6.3	
Single	(304)	(208)	%	64.1	63.2	16.8	4.3	
Divorced, separated	(85)	(48)	%	56.5	63.5	23.5	_	
Standard region								
North	(248)	(164)	94	73.1	47.6	14.9	6.0	
Yorks & Humberside	(380)	(268)	%	81.8	55.8	8.7	5.8	
Northwest	(565)	(383)		73.2	48.1	11.0	7.3	
E Midlands & E Anglia	(522)	(356)		79.0	55.8	10.7	4.4	
W Midlands	(385)	(257)		81.6	55.4	10.4	2.3	
Greater London	(472)	(313)		72.9	47.7	12.9	5.5	
Southeast & Southwest	(839)	(575)	0/0	80.6	59.9	8.5	3.0	
'Retirement areas'	(458)	(306)	%	75.4	63.6	12.0	2.8	
Population density								
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%	72.9	47.7	12.9	5.5	
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	%	75.8	48.8	12.4	6.5	
Non-metropolitan counties:								
high	(496)	- (337)	%	81.0	51.8	8.3	4.2	
medium	(550)	(365)		74.9	56.2	12.2	4.0	
low	(1,377)	(941)	%	80.0	62.3	9.1	3.1	
Persons in household								
One	(1,144)	(809)	%	77.8	59.1	9.6	3.9	
Γwo	(2,120)	(1,406)	%	79.8	55.7	9.5	4.2	
Three or more	(605)	(407)	%	69.0	44.7	17.0	6.6	

12.16 Relatives visited

Differences between the kinds of relatives visited by between people of different ages and marital status are men and by women are not very great, but those

very marked.

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Table 12.6.1 Relatives visited by the elderly (by age and marital status)

	Total	Age			Marital status			
		65-74	75-84	85 & over	Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced separated
All elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3.869)	(2,571)	(1,089)	(209)	(2,029)	(1,451)	(304)	(85)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(1,354)	(1,063)	(205)	(1,297)	(1,069)	(208)	(48)
Relatives visited	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Daughters/in law	43.2	47.0	37.4	26.3	49.0	44.5	0.2	24.1
Sons/in law	37.7	41.3	31.1	27.8	49.0	44.5 39.6	0.3	34.1 21.2
Sisters/in law	35.3	40.7	26.7	12.9	38.3	30.9	.0.3 37.5	28.2
Brothers/in law	20.0	24.9	11.3	4.3	23.5	15.5	20.1	12.9
Grandchildren aged 16 & over	9.7	8.3	11.2	19.1	7,6	14.8	1.0	4.7
Grandchildren under 16	14.1	16.7	9.6	5.3	16.4	13.8	0.3	12.9
Nephews, nieces aged 16 & over	11.7	12.1	10.7	12.4	10.6	10.9	24.3	8.2
Nephews, nieces under 16	1.8	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.7	3.0	4.7
Cousins/in law	4.0	4.4	3.3	1.9	3.6	3.2	10.5	
Parents/in law	1.8	2.7	0.1	0.5	3.1	0.4	-	2.4
Aunts, uncles	1.3	1.8	0.2	1.0	1.5	0.9	2.0	_
Others, not stated	2.0	1.8	2.3	2.9	1.7	2.4	2.3	_
Do not visit relatives	18.0	14.6	24.4	28.3	15.0	17.8	31.6	43.5
Bedfast, housebound	4.5	1.8	7.9	20.6	3.4	6.3	4.3	_

Differences cannot be entirely attributed to differences in the extent to which visits are made at all. Among the 83 and over age group those who visit relatives at all name more kinds of relatives than do those in the other age groups (3.8 on average compared with 2.5). The kinship of those visited depends to a great extent on survival rates and the sex and age of the survivors.

The higher average age of widowed informants accounts largely for the difference between the relatives mentioned by married and widowed informants. Very few single people have children, which accounts for many of the differences in their case: the high percentage who visit nephews and nieces is noteworthy.

Regional differences are not, in most cases, very great and can mostly be attributed to the varying percentages who visit relatives at all.

12.17 Frequency of visits to relatives

We show below the overall frequency of visits to relatives (ie the sum total of all visits to all relatives) by those of different ages and marital status. There are no very marked differences between the sexes in respect of this.

Judged by either the criterion of visits more than once a week, or by that of visits less often than once a month or never, the oldest age group, single people and divorced people are seen to be at a disadvantage. Those living alone show a much higher than average percentage (21.4 per cent) who visit more than once a week.

Regional differences do not appear to be as great as those between age groups or marital status groups. There is some evidence that, in regions where the percentage who ever visit relatives is comparatively low, the average frequency of visiting is also low.

Table 12 17.1 Overall frequency of visits to relatives (by age and marital status)

	Total ED (3,869) (2,622) %	Age			Marital status				
		65-74	75-84	85 & over (209) (205) %	(2,029) (1,297) %	Widowed (1,451) (1,069)	(304) (208) %	Divorced, separated	
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)		(2,571) (1,354) %	(1,089) (1,063) %					(85) (48) %	
Frequency Every day or nearly Two or three times a week About once a week About once a month Less often	6.3 9.1 19.5 17.2 25.0	7.1 10.7 22.3 19.1 24.9	5.0 6.4 14.4 14.5 27.2	4.3 3.3 11.0 6.7 24.9	5.8 8.4 21.8 19.6 25.4	7.9 10.9 18.5 14.6 23.6	3.3 6.9 9.2 16.1 28.6	2.4 2.4 17.6 7.1 27.1	
Not stated	0.4	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.6	0.3	-	_	
Never visits relatives	18.0	14.6	24.4	28.3	15.0	17.8	31.6	43.5	
Bedfast, housebound	4.5	1.8	7.9	20.6	3.4	6.3	4.3		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

12.18 Help given to relatives

21.9 per cent say they are able to do things to help when they visit relatives. The percentage among men is 21.2 per cent and among women 22.4 per cent.

Not unexpectedly, the percentage decreases sharply with age. It is 26.5 per cent among those aged 65-74, 14.0 per cent among those aged 75-84 and 6.7 per cent among those aged 85 and over.

We have already shown that 41.5 per cent of elderly people receive help from visiting relatives. As might be expected, help is more frequently received than given, but among those aged 65–74 the difference is less marked (36.9 per cent receive, 26.5 per cent give help).

12.19 Frequency of visits to friends

There is little difference in the frequency with which men and women make visits to friends but once again there are pronounced differences between those of different ages and marital status. Single and divorced people to some extent compensate for less frequent visits to relatives by more frequent visits to friends. Older people, however, do not do so. As is the case with visits to relatives, those living alone show an unusually high percentage (22.8 per cent) who visit friends more than once a week.

Regional variations do not follow a consistent pattern and no firm conclusions can be drawn.

12.20 Help given to friends

The percentage of informants who say they are able to do things to help when they visit friends is 10.6 per cent. This is lower than the percentage who give help to relatives but a little higher than the percentage who say they receive help from friends (8.3 per cent).

11.7 per cent of women, compared with 8.9 per cent of men, say they are able to help. Not unexpectedly, the percentage decreases sharply with age (12.6 per cent, 7.1 per cent and 3.8 per cent respectively).

Table 12.19.1 Overall frequency of visits to friends (by age and marital status)

	Total	Age			Marital sta	itus		
		65-74	75-84	85 & over	Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced etc
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622)	(2,571) (1,354)	(1,089) (1,063)	(209) (205)	(2,029) (1,297)	(1,451) (1,069)	(304) (208)	(85) (48) %
Frequency								,,,
Every day or nearly	4.7	5.3	3.7	2.4	3.1	6.8	5.9	2.4
Two or three times a week	9.7	11.6	6.4	4.8	7.1	11.6	16.4	15.3
About once a week	16.0	18.7	11.5	5.7	17.5	13.5	16.4	18.8
About once a month	11.5	13.0	8.6	8.1	13.4	8.9	12.2	9.4
Less often	12.9	12.6	14.0	10.5	13.6	11.9	12.2	17.6
Not stated	0.2	0.1	0.3	_	_	0.3	_	
Never visits friends	40.6	37.1	47.6	47.9	41.9	40.7	32.5	36.5
Bedfast, housebound	4.5	1.8	7.9	20.6	3.4	6.3	4.3	_
Total	100.0	100.0	100,0	100.0	10/0	100.0	100.0	100.0

12.21 Reasons for never visiting relatives or friends

We have shown that, apart from bedfast and housebound, 10.7 per cent of elderly people never visit relatives or friends. These were asked why they never visit.

Table 12.21.1 Reasons for never visiting friends or relatives

	Total
Elderly persons who do not visit WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(415) (319)
Reasons	70
Health reasons, too tiring	28.2
Don't want to go, prefer to stay home	27.0
Distance too great	24.6
Relatives, friends, visit informant instead	13.7
Family commitments	6.5
Has no relatives, friends; has lost contact	6.3
Too busy	4.3
Costs too much	1.7
Seldom or never goes out (although able to)	7.2
Other reasons	10.1
No reason, not stated	3.9

It would appear that some at least of the elderly are exercising a personal choice in not visiting. Interviewers reported that some informants appeared distressed by the questions relating to visiting and, although such things are impossible to quantify, it may be that some people are rationalising their real feelings by saying they prefer to stay home or are too busy.

Possibly some of those who do not visit because of their health, the distance or the expense might be able to do so if provided with transport.

12.22 Summary of visits made and received

To summarise this section on visits made and received to and from relatives and friends, we show the percentages who both make and receive visits, make but do not receive, receive but do not make, neither receive nor make visits in the sample groups.

Visits are both made and received by the great majority of all groups except the bedfast and housebound. Although very few in this group live alone, many of them have been shown to express a desire for more visits.

Table 12.22.1 Summary of visits made and received by elderly persons (by sex, age, mobility, marital status, standard region, population density and size of household)

Total WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures		Both make and receive	Make only	Receive only	Neither	Not stated
(3,869)	(2,622)	%	82.7	1.6	13.1	2.1	0.5 = 100
(1.540)	(994)	%	83.0	2.3	12.3	2.2	0.2
(2,329)	(1,628)	%	82.5	1.2	13.6	2.0	0.7
(2.571)	(1.251)	o.	v7.0	2.0	7.0	1.6	0.5
							0.5
							0.5
(209)	(205)	70	00.5	_	33.4	3.0	0.5
(174)	(150)	%	_		85.6	13.8	0.6
(3,695)	(2,472)	%	86.6	1.7	9.7	1.5	0.5
	WEIGHTED (3,869) (1,540) (2,329) (2,571) (1,089) (209)	WEIGHTED figures (3,869) (2,622) (1,540) (994) (2,329) (1,628) (2,571) (1,354) (1,089) (1,063) (205) (174) (150)	WEIGHTED figures (3,869) (2,622) % (1,540) (994) % (2,329) (1,628) % (2,571) (1,363) % (1,089) (1,063) % (209) (205) % (174) (150) %	WEIGHTED figures and receive (3,869) (2,622) \$8.2.7 (1,540) (994) \$83.0 (2,329) (1,628) \$87.9 (1,628) \$74.5 (209) (205) \$60.3 (174) (150) \$6 -	WEIGHTED figures and receive	WEIGHTED figures and receive only (3,869) (2,622) % 82.7 1.6 13.1 (1,540) (994) % 83.0 2.3 12.3 (2,329) (1,688) % 82.5 1.2 13.6 (2,571) (1,354) % 87.9 2.0 7.9 (1,089) (1,063) % 74.5 1.1 21.0 (299) (205) % 60.3 — 35.4 (174) (150) % — — 85.6	WEIGHTED figures and receive only (3,869) (2,622) % 82.7 1.6 13.1 2.1 (1,540) (994) % 83.0 2.3 12.3 2.2 (2,329) (1,628) % 82.5 1.2 13.6 2.0 (2,571) (1,548) % 87.9 2.0 7.9 1.6 (1,689) (1,634) % 74.5 1.1 21.0 2.8 (209) (205) % 60.3 3.3 3.8 (174) (150) % - - 85.6 13.8

Table 12.22.1-continued

	Total WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures		Both make and receive	Make only	Receive only	Neither	Not stated
Varital status								
Married	(2,029)	(1,297)		85.7	1.1	11.5	1.3	0.3
Vidowed	(1,451)	(1,069)		81.1	1.4	14.4	2.3	0.7
Single	(304)	(208)	96	73.4	4.9	16.4	4.6	0.8
Divorced etc	(85)	(48)	%	70.6	5.9	16.5	7.1	-
tandard region								
lorth	(248)	(164)		77.4	1.6	19.8	1.2	
orks & Humberside	(380)	(268)		84.7	0.5	12.1	2.4	0.3
Vorthwest	(565)	(383)		79.3	1.8	15.2	3.0	0.7
Mids & E Anglia	(522)	(356)		83.9	0.8	13.8	1.3	0.2
V Midlands	(385)	(257)	96	86.5	0.5	10.6	2.1	0.3
reater London	(472)	(313)	96	76.3	4.4	15.3	3.0	1.1
East & S West	(839)	(575)	96	86.2	2.0	10.6	0.8	0.4
Retirement areas'	(458)	(306)	%	83.6	0.7	11.4	3.5	0.9
Population density								
Greater London	(472)	(313)		76.3	4.4	15.3	3.0	1.1
Aetropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	%	79.6	0.9	15.9	3.0	0,6
Non-metropolitan counties:								
high	(496)	(337)		86.7	0.8	10.9	1.6	_
medium	(550)	(365)		80.4	2.4	13.1	3.1	1.1
low	(1,377)	(941)	98	86.6	1.2	11.2	0.9	0.1
Persons in household								0.6
One	(1,144)	(809)		84.1	1.7	12.1	1.5	0.6
Cwo	(2,120)	(1,406)		84.3	1.5	12.5	1.2	0.6
Three or more	(605)	(407)	9%	74.4	2.0	17.2	6.4	-

12.23 Social centres for the elderly

Social centres for the elderly may provide an escape from isolation for those who feel the need for more contacts with people of their own age.

All except the bedfast and housebound were asked: 'Do you ever go to any social centres specially for elderly people? If yes: how often do you go to any?'

(Social centres include those run by other bodies as well as those run by local authorities).

If we take into account the bedfast and housebound, the percentage who do not go does not differ greatly between men of different ages. Among women, the percentage who do not go increases sharply in the top age group and almost reaches the same level as among men of the same age, whereas in other age groups the percentage of men who do not go greatly exceeds that of women. A majority of those who go at all go at least once a week. This is true of every sex and age group.

Among people of different marital status, married people are at least likely to go. Including bedfast and housebound 85.1 per cent never go, compared with 76.8 per cent of widowed, 81.3 per cent of single and 77.6 per cent of divorced or separated.

Regional differences are not very great. Londoners are a little less likely than others to go.

Table 12.23.1 Visits to social centres for the elderly (by age within sex)

*	Grand	Men-ag	e			Women—age			
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994) %	(1,101) (565) %	(384) (375) %	(55) (54) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,470) (789) %	(705) (688) %	(154) (151) %
Goes to social centre for elderly: At least once a week Once a fortnight Less often	11.6 2.4 3.3	6.8 1.6 2.1	6.0 1.5 2.3	8.8 2.3 1.6	9.1 	14.8 2.9 4.1	15.9 3.0 4.7	15.8 3.0 3.5	10.3 1.3 1.9
Not stated	1.1	1.1	0.7	2.1	3.6	1.0	0.8	1.4	1.2
Never	77.0	84.9	88.0	77.9	70.9	71.9	74.6	68.1	63.0
Bedfast, housebound	4.5	3.4	1.5	7.3	16.4	5.2	2.0	8.2	22.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

12.24 Reasons for not going to social centres for the elderly

The reasons given for not going to social centres for the elderly are as follows (bedfast and housebound are excluded).

(The age patterns are very similar for men and women. They have therefore been combined because of small numbers in some groups).

Differences between the reasons given by men and by women are not great, except that the percentage of men who do not consider themselves old is appreciably higher than the proportion of women and that the reverse is true of health reasons. Both these can be accounted for by the higher average age of women.

Differences between age groups are what might be expected. It is perhaps worth noting that even among the 85 and over group there are a few who do not consider themselves old.

Differences between the reasons given by people of different marital status are not, for the most part, great enough to be worth comment. An exception is that 24.2 per cent of divorced and separated do not consider themselves elderly. This compares with 14.5 per cent of married, 11.4 per cent of widowed and 17.5 per cent of single. Over 30 per cent of all marital status groups say they lead full lives.

Regional differences are not consistent. The percentages who do not consider themselves old or whosay they are not good mixers do not differ greatly. The main differences are between the percentages saying they lead full lives and between the percentages giving the more vague reason that they are just not interested. This may be a matter of semantics, because a comparatively low percentage giving one answer is accompanied by a higher percentage giving the other in all regions except in Greater London, where both are below average. Londoners are also less likely to mention transport difficulties.

It appears that a lack of social centres for the elderly does not in itself constitute a major reason for not going.

Table 12.24.1 Reasons for not going to centres for the elderly (by sex and age

	Total	Sex		Age		
		Men	Women	65-74	75-84	85 & over
Informants who do not go to social						
centres for elderly WEIGHTED	(2,981)	(1,307)	(1,674)	(2,066)	(779)	(136)
(unweighted figures)	(1,981)	(828)	(1,153)	(1,091)	(758)	(132)
Reasons for not going	%	%	%	%	%	%
No need to go, have many friends,						
lead full life	34.7	36.5	33.2	39.2	39.2	16.2
Shy, poor mixer	19.3	18.1	20.3	17.2	24.1	22.8
Don't consider oneself old, don't						
want to mix with elderly people only Health reasons	13.9 10.5	16.4	11.9	16.9	7.6	4.4
Too far away, transport difficulties	5.4	6.4	14.7	7.9	14.6	25.7
100 tar away, transport difficulties	3,4	4.3	6.3	4.8	7.3	2.9
No centre available, don't know of any	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.5	5.0	5.1
Other specific reasons	7.7	7.0	8.2	7.4	9.2	3.7
		7.0	0.2	7.4	9.2	3.7
Just not interested	9.7	9.9	9.6	9.1	11.3	11.0
No reason given (including proxies)	7.1	7.8	6.4	5.7	8.6	19.8

12.25 Other social centres

All except the bedfast and housebound were asked: 'Do you ever go to any other social centres? If yes: how often do you go to any?'

No attempt was made to define social centres, so the interpretation of the phrase was left to informants. The purpose of the question was to find out to what extent elderly people take part in all kinds of social activity apart from that designed specially for the elderly.

Although the pattern of responses of men of different ages does not differ greatly from that of women, we show them separately so as to facilitate comparison with going to social centres for the elderly. Including bedfast and housebound, the percentage who do not go to other social centres is lower than the percentage who do not go to social centres for the elderly. This is true of all informants, of men as a whole, of women as a whole and of the lowest age-group for both sexes. In the highest age-group, however, for both sexes. In the highest age-group, however, for both sexes the percentage who do not go to other social centres exceeds the percentage who do not go to social centres for the elderly. Most of those who go to other social centres go at least once a week.

Considering the two sets of figures (centres for the elderly and other centres) it is apparent that a majority of elderly people do not go to either and that the majority is greatest in the oldest age-group.

Table 12.25.1 Visits to OTHER social centres (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men - a	ge			Women - age			
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994) %	(1,101) (565) %	(384) (375) %	(55) (54) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,470) (789) %	(705) (688) %	(154) (151) %
Goes to OTHER social centres At least once a week	14.8	17.8	20.3	12.2	5.5	13.0	15.4	9.1	7.8
Once a fortnight Less often	2.3	1.9	2,2	1.6 3.3	1.8	2.5 5.3	3.1 5.8	1.7 5.1	2.6
Not stated	3.0	2.1	1.9	2.6	1.8	3.6	4.3	2.5	0.6
Never	70.6	70.7	69.8	72.9	74.5	70.5	69.4	73.5	66.9
Bedfast, housebound	4.5	3.4	1.5	7.3	16.4	5.2	2.0	8.2	22.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 12.25.2 Percentages in each region who NEVER go (a) to centres for the elderly; (b) other social centres

	Never go to	centres:
	For elderly	Others
	%	%
Region		
North	86.2	63.7
Yorkshire and Humberside	81.9	76.9
Northwest	78.5	75.6
E Midlands & E Anglia	82.0	71.4
W Midlands	80.0	80.2
Greater London	87.1	81.8
Southeast & Southwest	80.7	74.8
'Retirement areas'	79.2	72.5
Population density		
Greater London	87.1	81.8
Metropolitan counties	81.0	77.2
Non-metropolitan counties:		
high	81.0	76.0
medium	80.4	74.0
low	80.7	71.4

74.9 per cent of married people never go to centres not specially for the elderly, compared with 75.8 per cent of widowed, 75.7 per cent of single and 64.7 per cent of divorced or separated.

Regional differences are more marked than in the case of social centres for the elderly, as the following comparison shows (bedfast and housebound included).

Greater London includes the highest percentage in both cases. It can be said that in all areas a majority of elderly people do not go to either.

12.26 Telephone

As well as providing a means of summoning help in an emergency, the telephone may enable elderly people to keep in contact with friends and relatives who are unable

Table 12.26.1 Possession of phone and difficulty in using (by sex, agc, marital status, mobility and size of household)

	Elderly persons WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures		Phone, no difficulty	Phone, difficulty in using	No phone
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	40,3	4.1	55.6 = 100
Sex						
Men	(1,540)	(994)		39.0	4.1	56.9
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	41.2	4.1	54.7
Age						
65-74	(2,571)	(1,354)		42.3	2.0	55.7
75-84	(1,089)	(1,063)		37.5	6.1	56.4
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	29.7	19.6	50.7
Marital status						
Married	(2,029)	(1,297)		41.9	3.2	54.9
Widowed	(1.451)	(1,069)		36.5	5.5	58.0
Single	(304)	(208)		44.1	3.9	52.0
Divorced etc	(85)	(48)	%	49.4	3.5	47.1
Mobility				00.5	21.8	57.5
Bedfast, housebound	(174)	(150)		20.7		
Goes out	(3,695)	(2,472)	%	41.2	3.3	55.5
Persons in household					- 0	64.2
One	(1,144)	(809)		33.8	2.0	54.7
Two	(2,120)	(1,406)		41.6	3.7	
Three or more	(605)	(407)	%	48.0	9.6	42.4

to visit frequently. For the telephone to be really useful, it is necessary for the elderly person to be able to use it without difficulty and we therefore asked whether this was the case (elsewhere we deal with the situation of the phone in relation to elderly persons' accommodation).

People with no phone are obviously the most seriously disadvantaged, because those who have difficulty in using a phone could, in many cases, make shift to summon help in an emergency, or another person could do so. It must therefore be a cause for concern that less than half the elderly population live in households with a telephone. It is particularly disquieting that only just over one-third of those living alone have a telephone.

Difficulty in using the telephone lessens the value of the instrument as a means of social contact. When this is taken into account the situation of the very old and the bedfast and housebound can be seen to be less likely to be eased by the provision of a telephone. A bedside extension might be of value in some cases.

Informants were asked how many telephone calls, apart from purely business calls, they usually make and receive in a week.

Use of the telephone by those who have one is not very great: a majority make not more than ten calls a week. The main difference between the groups is the percent-

Table 12.26.2 Number of phone calls made and

	Calls made	Calls received
Elderly persons WEIGHTED	(3,869)	(3,869)
(unweighted figures)	(2,622)	(2,622)
Number of calls		
None	9.0	6.7
1-5	19.0	19.0
6-10	9.8	10.2
11-20	3.6	5.1
21 or more	0.5	0.9
Not stated	2.5	2.5
No phone	55.6	55.6
Total	100.0	100.0

age who make no calls. We summarise this below, including the percentage who have no phones (percentages read across, but do not add to 100 because people both make and receive calls).

Taking into account both those who have no phone and those who never use it, it can be said that the telephone is of limited value as a form of social contact to all but a minority of elderly people. Some groups are particularly disadvantaged in this respect: the very old, the bedfast and housebound, those in larger households.

Table 12.26.3 Elderly persons who make no calls, receive no calls, have no telephone (by sex, age, marifal status, mobility, size of household)

	Total WEIGHTED	Unweighte figures	d	Make no calls	Receive no calls	No phone
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	9.0	6.7	55.6
Sex						
Men	(1,540)	(994)	%	10.5	7.8	56.9
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	8.0	6.0	54.7
Age						
65-74	(2,571)	(1,354)	%	6.4	4.1	55.7
75-84	(1,089)	(1,063)	%	11.8	9.8	56.4
85 and over	(209)	(205)	%	26.3	22.5	50.7
Marital status						
Married	(2,029)	(1,297)	%	7.4	4.7	54.9
Widowed	(1,451)	(1,069)	%	11.0	9.0	58.0
Single	(304)	(208)	%	8.9	8.6	52.0
Divorced etc	(85)	(48)	%	12.9	10.6	47.1
Mobility						
Bedfast, housebound	(174)	(150)	%	25.3	21.8	57.5
Goes out	(3,695)	(2,472)	%	8.3	6.0	55.5
Persons in household						
One	(1,144)	(809)	%	3.8	3.2	64.2
Two	(2,120)	(1,406)	%	7.4	5.7	54.7
Three or more	(605)	(407)	%	24.8	17.0	42.4

12.27 Letters sent and received

We asked all elderly people whether they ever receive personal letters from friends or relatives and, if so, how many letters or cards they had received during the last fortnight. (Interviewing took place during the latter half of January and beginning of February so that the period covered would not be atypical because of Christmas or holiday postcards).

There is not a great deal of difference between the answers given by men and women, or by people of

Table 12.27.1 Letters received by elderly persons (by marital status, mobility and size of household)

	Total	Marital sta	tus			Mobility		Persons	in househo	old
		Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced etc	Bedfast house- bound	Goes	One	Two	Three or more
All elderly WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(2,029) (1,297) %	(1,451) (1,069)	(304) (208) %	(85) (48) %	(174) (150) %	(3,695) (2,472) %	(1,144) (809) %	(2,120) (1,406) %	(605) (407) %
Receive letters from:										
Friends	67.6	70.7	61.7	75.0	67.1	54.0	68.2	64.6	70.0	65.0
Relatives	76.3	80,8	73.1	64.5	67.1	67.2	76.8	73.1	79.1	72.7
Neither	13.8	11.5	16.0	15.8	21.2	20.1	13.5	15.0	11.5	19.2
Number received in past fortnight										
None	27.9	26.6	31.0	21.4	28.2	33.3	27.6	28.7	27.1	28.9
1 or 2	28.8	30.7	27.0	26.6	23.5	25.9	29.0	26.8	30.5	26.6
3-5	17.9	20.1	15.0	18.7	14.1	13.8	18.1	16.7	20.0	13.1
6 or more	10.5	10.6	9.0	16.4	11.8	5.2	10.7	10.8	10.0	11.7
Not stated	1.1	0.5	1.9	1.0	1.2	1.7	1.1	2.0	0.9	0.5
Never receive letters	13.8	11.5	16.0	15.8	21.2	20.1	13.5	15.0	11.5	19.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

different ages. We therefore give details of marital status, mobility and size of household groups.

These figures emphasise the comparative isolation of the bedfast and housebound, who are unable to make visits, are less likely to receive them, are less likely to receive and make phone calls, are less likely to receive letters and, if they do, receive fewer letters on average. Other

groups, notably those aged 85 and over, exhibit some of the indications of social isolation, but, taking all aspects into account, the bedfast and housebound are much worse off than any. Relatively few of them live alone, but we show in a later section that loneliness is not confined to those who live alone and the percentages of bedfast and housebound and of those living with others who complain of loneliness are not negligible.

13 Relationships with neighbours

13.1 Introduction

For many elderly people (particularly those who live alone) the only possible sources of help in an emergency (or in less serious difficulties which may arise suddenly) are the neighbours.

We therefore asked a series of questions to find out whether elderly people are likely to feel able to ask their neighbours for help.

(Throughout this series of questions the interpretation of neighbours' was left to the informant. The distinction between 'friends' and 'neighbours' is not always clear cut and distances have a different significance when viewed from a flat in a large block and from a house in a village).

13.2 Getting on with neighbours

The first was a 'prompted' question: 'In general, how do you get on with your neighbours?' The prompts were the first four answers shown below.

Table 13.2.1 How elderly people get on with neighbours

	Total
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869 (2,622
Gets on: Very well with all Very well with most Not very well with most Not very well with any	71.7 15.5 1.8 1.9
'Alright'	1.2
Never, rarely, speaks to neighbours	3.7
No neighbours	0.6
Not answered (including proxies)	3.6
Total	100.0

It seems that, in a general way, most elderly people are on good terms with their neighbours. However, there are some groups which give rise to concern.

It must first be said that comparisons between groups are not straightforward. This was a question which could not be asked of a proxy, and the proportions of proxies varies considerably.

Differences between many groups can be accounted for to a great extent by the varying proportions of proxies. While there is no evidence that any group contains more than a small proportion who are actually on bad terms with their neighbours, some groups include appreciably higher proportions who never or rarely speak.

Among women aged 85 and over, 3.9 per cent get on 'not very well' with most or all of their neighbours and a further 7.8 per cent rarely or never speak. This group includes 10.4 per cent of proxies, so the true proportions may be different.

Among bedfast and housebound, only 47.7 per cent say they get on 'very well' with all. 6.9 per cent get on 'not very well' with most or all and 10.9 per cent never or rarely speak. This group includes 14.9 per cent of proxies.

Regional differences are not very great and there is no evidence of the lack of neighbourliness often attributed to London and other large cities.

13.3 Asking neighbours for help

We next asked: 'If ever you needed help urgently, how many of your neighbours would you feel able to ask?'

Ten per cent of the sample say they would not feel able to ask any.

This in itself is serious, but when we look at the percentage giving this answer in different groups, it can be seen that some groups are very much at risk (the figures in some groups may be an understatement because of the high percentage of proxies).

Thus, the most valuerable group, the bedfast and housebound, are the least likely to feel able to ask neighbours for help. Those living alone are also vulnerable but are no less likely than others to feel able to rely on neighbours. Very few housebound and bedfast live alone, soit is possible that the higher figure in this group relates to a situation in which they might be left on their own, which might arise only rarely.

Looking at the more positive aspect, 42.9 per cent of all elderly would feel able to ask three or more neighbours for help. Among the very old the figure is 27.8 per cent and among the bedfast and housebound 22.4 per cent.

Regional differences are not sufficient to indicate that any area is conspicuously less neighbourly than others.

When asked to compare the ages of neighbours who would help with their own ages, 66.5 per cent say the

Table 13.3.1 Percentage of elderly people in different groups who feel unable to ask any neighbours for help

neighbours f	or help
	%
Sex	
Men	10.1
Women	10.0
Age	
65-74	8.9
75-84	12.1
85 and over	12.0
Marital status	
Married	11.3
Widowed	9.5
Single	7.3
Divorced etc	12.7
Mobility	
Bedfast, housebound	23.6
Able to go out	9.4
Persons in household	
One	10.7
Two	8,8
Three or more	12.9

neighbours are younger, 44.4 per cent about their own age, and nine per cent older (some mention neighbours in more than one age range). As one would expect, the percentages mentioning neighbours of their own age or older are lower among those aged 85 and over and the percentage mentioning younger people is higher.

13.4 Informal calls between neighbours

The last question relating to neighbours was: 'Apart from relatives or special friends, do any of your neighbours call on you or do you call on them?'

There are some interesting differences in the answers given by different groups, as shown in the following table (some people both make and receive calls so that percentages exceed 100).

Table 13.4.1 Calls received from and made on neighbours by elderly people (by sex, age, mobility and size of household)

	Total WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures	Receive calls	Make calls	Neither
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622) %	50.7	39.0	44.7 = 100.0
Sex					
Men	(1,540)	(994) %	47.5	35.5	48.5
Women	(2,329)	(1628) %	52.9	41.3	42.1
Age	(0.5-1)				
65-74	(2,571)	(1,354) %	50.0	43.5	44.8
75-84	(1,089)	(1,063) %	52.2	31.9	44.4
85 and over	(209)	(205) %	52.2	20.6	44.0
Mobilty					
Bedfast, housebound	(174)	(150) %	33.9	_	66.1
Goes out	(3,695)	(2,472) %	51,5	40.8	43.1
	(-,)	(=, =)	0.115	40.0	45.1
Persons in household					
One	(1,144)	(809) %	53.9	43.4	38.8
Two	(2,120)	(1,406) %	51.3	39.3	45.5
Three or more	(605)	(407) %	42.8	29.6	52.8

Table 13.4.2 Calls received from and made on neighbours by elderly people (by region and population density)

density)					
	Total WEIGHTEI	Unweighted figures	Receive calls	Make calls	Neither
Region					
North	(248)	(164) %	55.6	44.8	41.5 = 100.0
Yorks and Humberside	(380)	(268) %	66.6	51.3	27.9
North West	(565)	(383) %	46.4	32.0	49.5
E Midlands and E Anglia	(522)	(356) %	51.9	41.2	40.8
W Midlands	(385)	(257) %	50.1	35.8	47.3
Greater London	(472)	(313) %	39.2	27.8	56.6
Southeast and Southwest	(839)	(575) %	50.5	41.6	44.1
'Retirement areas'	(458)	(306) %	51.7	41.3	45.2
Population density					
Greater London	(472)	(313) %	39.2	27.8	56.6
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666) %	50.1	36.9	45.6
Non-Metropolitan:					
High	(496)	(337) %	49.4	41.7	43.3
Medium	(550)	(365) %	46.7	36.0	50.2
Low	(1,377)	(941) %	57.2	44.6	38.2

It can be seen that in most cases the differences between groups are greater in the extent to which calls are made than in the extent to which they are received. Once again, the situation of the bedfast and housebound must give cause for concern.

The differences between the answers given by informants living in different regions are in this instance sufficiently marked to be worth showing in detail.

It is in respect of more or less casual calls that Greater London shows such a marked difference from other regions and areas of lower population density. Elderly Greater Londoners do not appear to get on less well with their neighbours than do non-Londoners, nor do they include a higher percentage who feel they could not call on neighbours for help in an emergency. They are, however, less likely to receive visits or make visits to neighbours apart from special friends and relatives.

14 Transport and accessibility

14.1 Introduction

In this section we deal with the availability of private cars for elderly people, with the extent to which concessions are given on public transport and with the accessibility of some essential facilities.

Bedfast and housebound people were not asked the relevant questions, but they are usually included in the base figures and are shown separately in the tables, so as to relate the findings to the whole elderly population.

It should be born in mind that here we deal with the availability of cars for individual elderly people. (In the section on households we deal with household possession of cars.) This is because here we are primarily concerned with the number of individuals who may possibly have difficulties with transport and hence with making necessary journeys.

14.2 Possession of car and driving licence

Elderly people whose households possess a car and who themselves drive the car are less dependent than others on public transport or the help of other people. The following summarises the overall position (only 0.9 per cent of elderly people hold a driving licence but do not drive the household car).

The first important finding is the high proportion of elderly people who live in households without cars. The 1971 Census showed that 58.6 per cent of all persons in England lived in households with at least one car (regional details are given later).

Women are more disadvantaged than men in respect both of driving and of having a car in the household. The latter is to some extent a consequence of the higher percentage of elderly women who live alone. We compare elderly people living in different types of household later.

Among both men and women the percentage who actually drive decreases very sharply with age. Very few hold a licence but do not drive.

It is interesting to look at the percentages in the detailed age-groups who hold driving licences and drive.

Table 14.2.2 Percentage in each age-group who drive and who have a car in the household

	% who drive	% with car in household(1)
65-69	26.9	43.0
70-74	15.9	29.7
75-79	7.0	22.0
80-84	6.6	26.1
85 & over	1.4	24.8

(1) including bedfast and housebound.

It seems likely that a number of people give up driving and having their own cars round about the age of 70–74. After that age the fall in the percentage who drive is not paralleled by a fall in the percentage with cars in the household. This is a probable consequence of living with younger people. The percentage with cars in the household is, however, well below the national average, because many older elderly people, particularly women, live on their own and have no cars.

The second of th

	Grand	Men —	ige			Women — age			
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994) %	(1,101) (565) %	(384) (375) %	(55) (54) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,470) (789) %	(705) (688) %	(154) (151) %
Elderly persons who: Are bedfast/housebound and: have car in household have NO car in household	0.9 3.5	0.5 2.9	 1.5	1.8 5.2	1.8 14.5	1.2 4.0	0.3 1.7	1.8 6.2	7.1 14.9
Are able to go out and: have care in household and drive have car in household but do not drive have NO car in household	16.6 15.0 64.0	32.7 7.6 56.4	40.0 5.8 52.8	15.6 10.4 66.9	5.5 21.8 56.4	6.0 19.8 69.0	8.4 21.7 67.9	2.1 17.0 72.8	16.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.

8.4 per cent of housewives drive and 27.0 per cent have cars. For non-housewives the figures are 29.0 per cent and 49.7 per cent respectively. The preponderance of woman among housewives is the main explanation of the difference.

It will be remembered that people who can go out with assistance, including being taken by car, are not classed as housebound. The figures appear to indicate that some at least of the housebound have become so because of the absence of a car in the household.

The type of household in which elderly people live has an important bearing on the extent of car availability. Among households with only one elderly person and younger members, car ownership is much closer to the national average. Among households with more than one elderly person and younger members car ownership is higher than in the remaining types of household, but a little lower than the national average.

The elderly living alone and, to a lesser extent, elderly siblings are particularly at a disadvantage, probably as a consequence of the preponderance of elderly women in these groups.

A point to be borne in mind is that the elderly population in years to come is likely to include a higher proportion of drivers. An unpublished survey carried out five years

Table 14.2.3 Possession of car in household and of driving licence (by type of household)

	Type of househo	old			
	One elderly person alone	Elderly married couple only(1)	Elderly siblings only(1)	Others, one elderly person only	Others, more than one elderly
Elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,144) (809)	(1,705) (1,099)	(108) (82)	(556) (379)	(356) (253)
Elderly persons who: Are bedfast/housebound and:	%	%	%	%	%
have car in household	_	0.2	_	3.8	3.4
have NO car in household	3.9	3.2	1.9	4.3	2.8
Are able to go out and:					
have car in household and drive	9.4	23.2	9.3	13.5	15.2
have car in household do not drive	0.3	12.8	11.0	42.1	31.4
have NO car in household	86.4	60.6	77.8	36.3	47.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ one or both elderly.

Table 14.2.4 Percentage of drivers and of persons with a car in the household (by standard region and population density)

	(248) (380) (565) (522) (385) (472) (458) (4,869)	Unweighted figures	Drivers	Persons wit household	h car in
				Survey(1)	Census 1971
i. Standard region					
North	(248)	(164) %	15.7	33.9	47.7
Yorks & Humberside	(380)	(268) %	13.4	25.8	49.7
North West	(565)	(383) %	9.9	25.2	51.8
E Midlands & E Anglia	(522)	(356) %	20.3	36.4	62.1
W Midlands		(257) %	14.5	28.5	59.4
Greater London		(313) %	12.5	23.6	54.1
Southeast & Southwest	(839)	(575) %	19.4	40.2	68.8
Retirement areas'	(458)	(306) %	24.5	40.6	N.A.
Total	(3,869)	(2,622) %	16.6	32.5	58.6
i. Population density					
Greater London	(472)	(313) %	12.5	23.6	
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666) %	12.3	24.8	
Non-metropolitan counties					
high density	(496)	(337) %	13.3	28.5	
medium	(550)	(365) %	20.4	41.1	
low	(1,377)	(941) %	20.7	39.0	
Гotal	(3,869)	(2,622) %	16.6	32.5	

⁽¹⁾ including bedfast and housebound.
N.A. not available.

ago found the following percentages of licence-holders in each age-group.

Age-group	Total	Men	Women
	%	%	%
17-19	22	34	10
20-24	46	66	25
25-29	49	73	28
30-39	54	73	32
40-49	46	67	25
50-59	39	63	17
60-69	27	45	11
70 and over	9	19	4
All ages	38	59	19

The percentage of licence holders among those aged 70 and over from the present survey is 10.7 per cent which

does show a small increase (though the difference is not statistically significant). However, the main conclusion which can be drawn from the earlier survey is that those who become elderly (by our definition) in 20 years' time are likely to include among them an appreciably higher proportion of drivers.

Regional differences in the percentages of drivers and of those with a car in the household are quite marked.

All non-drivers with a car in the household are taken out in the car by other member(s) of the household (this of course excludes bedfast and housebound).

14.3 Elderly people without cars in household

All without cars were asked 'Does anyone take you out in a car at least once a fortnight?'

Table 14.3.1 Extent to which elderly people go out by car (by age within sex, type of household, standard region, population density)

		Car in ho	uschold		No car in	household	
		B/fast h/bound	Drives self	Driven other	B/fast h/bound	Taken at least once a fortnight	Taken less than once a fortnight or not at all
Men aged:			40.0	5.8	1.5	12.1	40.6 = 100.0
65-74				10.4	5.2	19.5	47.4
75-84		1.8	15.6		14.5	20.0	36.3
85 & over	%	1.8	5.5	21.8	14.5	20.0	30.3
Total men	%	0.5	32.7	7.6	2.9	14.2	42.2
Women aged:							
65-74		0.3	8.4	21.7	1.7	18.1	49.8
75-84		1.8	2.1	17.0	6.2	23.0	49.8
85 & over	%	7.1	_	16.2	14.9	22.7	38.9
Total women	%	1.2	6.0	19.8	4.0	19.9	49.1
Grand total	%	0.9	16.6	15.0	3.5	17.6	46.4
Type of household							
One elderly person alone	0%		9.4	_	3.9	30.2	43.2(1)
Elderly married couple only	0%	0.2	23.2	12.8	3.2	14.9	45.7
Elderly siblings only		_	9.3	11.0	1.9	10.2	67.6
Others - one elderly		3.8	13.5	42.1	4.3	6.8	29.5
Others - more than one	or.	3.4	15.2	31.4	2.8	9.6	37.6
elderly	70						
All types	%	0.9	16.6	15.0	3.5	17.6	46.4
Standard region				10.2	6.0	9.3	50.8
North			15.7	18.2			43.5
Yorks & Humberside		0.3	13.4	12.1	5.5	25.3	49.6
North West		2.1	9.9	13.1	5.1	20.2	
E Midlands & E Anglia		1.7	20.3	14.4	2.7	16.9	44.1
W Midlands		0.3	14.5	13.8	2.1	18.7	50.6
Greater London		0.8	12.5	10.2	4.2	14.4	57.8
Southeast & Southwest		1.0	19.4	19.8	2.0	19.2	38.6
'Retirement areas'	%	0.2	24.5	15.9	2.6	13.1	43.7
All areas	%	0.9	16.6	15.0	3.5	17.6	46.4
Population density							
	or.	0.8	12.5	10.2	4.2	14.4	57.8
Greater London		1.0	12.3	11.5	5.4	20.9	48,8
Metropolitan counties	70	1.0	12.3	11.5	5.4	20.7	10.10
Non-metropolitan counties:		0.0	12.2	14.3	3,4	19.0	49.2
high		0.8	13.3		2.9	12.2	43.8
medium		1.1	20.4	19.6			40.7
low	%	0.9	20.7	17.5	2.2	18.1	40.7
All densities	%	0.9	16.6	15.0	3.5	17.6	46.4

⁽¹⁾ Does not add to 100 per cent because three elderly people on their own have cars but do not drive.

The extent to which elderly people go out by car is shown on page 113.

Including bedfast and housebound, just over half the elderly population go out less than once a fortnight. The percentage is lower among men than among women. It is considerably higher in the Greater London area than elsewhere.

Virtually all those who are taken out by car by people outside the household are taken by relatives or friends (two thirds by relatives, one third by friends). Only about one in forty mentions a voluntary worker.

14.4 Purposes for which elderly persons use cars

The purposes for which cars are used by elderly people differ according to whether the car is self driven, driven by another person in the household or driven by a person outside the household. The way in which the questions were asked makes the three kinds of driving mutually exclusive. That is, if a person drives him/herself he/she was not asked if anyone in the household also takes him/her out, and persons with a car in the household were not asked whether anyone from outside takes them out at least once a fortnight. We have already shown that everyone with a car in the household, except bedfast and housebound, goes out in the car on occasion, either driven by self or by another household member. It is possible that some people with a car in the household may be taken out by someone outside the household for some purposes. There may therefore be some understatement resulting from comparatively infrequent car trips with people outside the household (eg an elderly person who is taken on holiday every year by an outsider would not be included as being driven) but the main

understatement is likely to be of use for particular purposes. For example a self-driver might drive the car for shopping him/herself, be driven to the doctor by another member of the household and be driven on holiday by a person outside the household. The two latter purposes would not be recorded. (It was not feasible in the course of an already long interview to investigate car usage in any greater detail. The use of a car to travel to selected amenities is covered in a later paragraph.)

The tables which follow are all based on all informants, so that the figures in each may be directly compared.

We deal first with those who drive themselves.

Only a minority of elderly in all groups are self-driven (bedfast and housebound are of course non-drivers but are shown separately because of the difference in incidence between groups). Obviously in groups where the proportion of self-drivers is lower the proportion using the car for most individual purposes is lower, but in each group differences between the first five purposes are not great.

The following table relates to those who are driven by another member of the household (ie all those with a car in the household who do not drive themselves)

It appears that, where elderly people are driven by other household members, taken overall, travel by car for each individual purpose is less than for self-drivers. However, this is not true of groups where the percentage of self-drivers is low (women; the very old and those living with younger people).

Table 14.4.1 Purposes for which elderly people drive themselves (by sex, age, type of household)

	All elderly persons	Unweighted figures		Purpose	for which	self drive	n				Not	B/fast
	WEIGHTED	rigutes		Shop- ping	Visiting	Holi- days	Pleasure trips	Doctor hospital	Work	Others	self driver	h/bounc
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	14.4	15.7	11.0	13.8	12.4	2.4	1.8	79.0	4.4
Sex												
Men	(1,540)	(994)	%	27.7	30.5	21.8	26.9	23.4	5.4	3.1	63.9	3.4
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	5.6	5.9	3.9	5.2	5.1	0.5	1.0	88.8	5.2
Age												
65-69	(1,409)	(725)	0%	23.6	25.9	18.9	22.9	19.9	5.0	2.6	72.0	1.1
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	96	13.9	14.8	9.7	13.2	12.2	1.7	2.2	81.6	2.5
75-79	(697)	(688)	%	5.7	6.7	4.4	5.3	5.3	0.3	0.4	87.2	5.8
80-84	(392)	(375)	%	5.9	5.1	3.6	5.4	5.1	0.3	1.0	82.1	11.3
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	0.5	1.4	-	0.5	0.5	-	0.5	78.1	20.5
Type of house-												
hold												
Elderly alone	(1,144)	(809)	96	8.7	9.2	5.3	8.0	7.3	1.7	1.2	86.7	3.9
Elderly couple	(1,705)	(1,099)		20.4	21.9	16.2	19.4	17.4	3.2	2.3	73.4	3.4
Elderly siblings	(108)	(82)	96	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	5.6	1.9	2.3	88.8	1.9
Others — one	` ′	(/					/	5.0	1.7	_	00.0	1.9
elderly	(556)	(379)	96	10.8	12.9	7.6	10.8	9.4	2.5	2.1	78.4	8.1
Others — more	` ′	()			1017	7.0	10.0	2.7	2.3	2.1	/0.4	0.1
than one												
elderly	(356)	(253)	%	12.4	13.5	10.4	12.4	11.8	1.4	1.7	78.6	6.2

The purposes for which elderly people without cars in the household are taken out by people outside the household are as follows (virtually none are taken to work so this purpose is included under 'others').

Among those taken out by people outside the household the leading purposes are visiting and pleasure trips. The percentages of all elderly mentioning these do not differ greatly from the percentages mentioning them in connection with being driven by another household member. This overall similarity does not extend to all groups.

Elderly living alone cannot of course be driven by another household member and the comparatively high percentages of this group mentioning being driven by

Table 14.4.2. Purposes for which elderly persons are driven by other member(s) of household (by sex, age, type of household)

	All elderly	Unweighted	1	Purpose	s for which	driven b	y other men	nber of ho	usehold		Not appli-	B/fast h/bound
	persons WE1GHTED	figures		Shop- ping	Visiting	Holi- days	Pleasure trips	Doctor hospital	Work	Others	cable(1)	nyoounc
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	10.1	11.7	6.9	10.6	8.8	0.7	1.2	80.6	4.4
Sex												
Men	(1,540)	(994)	%	3.6	4.9	2.7	4.2	3.9	1.0	0.4	89.0	3.4
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	14.4	16.2	9.7	14.8	12.1	1.6	1.6	75.0	5.2
Age												
65-69	(1,409)	(725)	%	12.3	13.4	8.7	11.9	9.8	0.9	1.0	82.9	1.1
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	96	9.7	10.4	6.4	9.1	7.6	1.0	1.7	83.9	2.5
75-79	(697)	(688)	%	8.2	9.8	5.2	10.0	8.6	0.4	0.8	80.2	5.8
80-84	(392)	(375)	96	8.2	11.0	5.6	10.5	9.4	0.3	1.8	72.9	11.3
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	7.7	15.3	6.2	12.0	8.6	0.5	0.5	61.7	20.5
Type of house- hold												
Elderly alone	(1,144)	809)	%		_	_				-	95.8(2)	3.9
Elderly couple	(1,705)	(1,099)	%	10.5	11.9	8.3	10.6	8.6	0.2	0.7	83.8	3.4
Elderly siblings		(82)	%	7.4	9.3	5.6	7.4	7.4			88.1	1.9
Others - one	(/	` ′										
elderly	(556)	(379)	%	25.0	30.2	13.3	28.2	21.9	2.5	3.5	49.8	8.1
Others - more	,	. ,										
elderly	(356)	(253)	%	18.0	19.9	12.6	17.4	18.3	3.1	2.9	62.4	6.2

⁽¹⁾ Includes self-drivers and those without a car in household (apart from bedfast and housebound).

Table 14.4.3 Purposes for which elderly persons are driven by person(s) outside the household (by sex, age, type of household)

	All elderly	Unweighted		Purpose	s for which	driven b	y person ou	tside house	ehold	Car in house-	Not driven	B/fast h/bound
	persons WEIGHTED	figures		Shop- ping	Visiting	Holi- days	Pleasure trips	Doctor hospital	Others	hold(2)	by other person(1)	
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	7.1	10.9	3.1	9.9	3.3	3.4	31.6	46.4	4.4
Sex												
Men	(1,540)	(994)	96		7.9	2.2	8.4	2.4	2.6	40.3	42.2	3.4
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	8.8	13.0	3.6	10.9	4.0	3.6	25.8	49.1	5.2
Age										40.0	41.7	1.1
55-69	(1,409)	(725)	%		8.5	2.6	8.4	2.5	2.1	42.9	51.0	2.5
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	%		10.5	3.0	10.8	3.2	2.6	29.5	51.0	5.8
75-79	(697)	(688)	%		14.2	3.6	10.6	4.9	4.1	21.1		11.3
80-84	(392)	(375)	%		12.8	3.8	9.7	4.1	7.1	22.5	44.9	
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	6.2	15.3	3.3	12.9	3.3	5.3	19.1	38.3	20.5
Type of house-												
hold		(0.00)		10.7	20.0	5.6	15.9	5.2	5.9	9.7	56.2	3.9
Elderly alone	(1,144)	(809)		12.7		2.6	8.8	3.5	2.7	25.9	45.6	3.4
Elderly couple	(1,705)	(1,099)	96		8.6			5.5	3.8	20.4	67.6	1.9
Elderly siblings	(108)	(82)	%	2.8	4.6	1.9	4.6		5.0	20.4	07.0	1.7
Others - one	(004)	(270)	%	2.9	4.3	1.4	5.0	1.1	0.6	55.5	29.5	8.1
elderly	(556)	(379)	%	2.9	4.3	1.4	5.0	1.1	0.0	55.5	27.3	
Others - more												
than one	(0.07)	(0.50)	%	2.0	5.3	0.3	5.3	1.4	1.7	44.7	37.6	6.2
elderly	(356)	(253)	70	2.0	5.5	0.3	3.3	1.7			55	

⁽¹⁾ ie not driven at least once a fortnight or not at all.

⁽²⁾ The discrepancy here arises because three elderly people on their own have cars but do not drive.

⁽²⁾ apart from bedfast and housebound.

outsiders for each purpose counteract the lower percentages in other groups.

Because the three types of driving are mutually exclusive, the purposes for which they are used can be added together to show all purposes for which cars are used by elderly people. (The possible small understatement mentioned earlier should be borne in mind.)

The pattern of car usage by different groups is almost the same for each purpose, with a few minor exceptions. It can be said that groups in which the percentage of drivers is highest contain the highest percentages of users for each purpose. This is in some ways a truism, because an elderly person who has to depend on someone else to drive him (or, more often, her), even where that person is another member of the household, is more likely to have to use other means of transport.

The extent to which a car is used for virtually all activities decreases steadily with increasing age. An exception is 'other activities', which are almost all accounted for by leisure centres or religious activities. The fall in the extent of use of car for visits to doctor or hospital may indicate that doctors are more likely to visit very old patients at their homes and that ambulances are more likely to esent for older people.

The age trends within the sexes are very similar, apart from the fact that, due to the low percentage of women who drive themselves in the youngest age group, the increase in the percentage driven by other people is less marked. The fall off with age in the use of a car for activities is not significantly different between the sexes.

Visiting and pleasure trips are mentioned more frequently than shopping, but the difference is not great

Table 14.4.4 All purposes for which elderly persons use cars (by sex, age, type of household)

	All elderly	Unweighted		All pur	poses for w	hich elde	rly people u	se cars		
	WEIGHTED	figures		Shop- ping	Visiting	Holi- days	Pleasure trips	Doctor hospital	Work	Others
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	31.6	38.3	21.0	34.3	24.9	3.2	6.2
Sex										
Men	(1,540)	(994)	O.	35.8	43.3	26.7	39.5	29.7	6.4	
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)		28.8	35.1	17.2	30.9			6.1
	(2,527)	(1,020)	70	40.0	33.1	17.2	30.9	21.2	2.2	6.2
\ge										
5-69	(1,409)	(725)	%	41.8	47.8	30.2	43.2	32.2	5.9	5.7
0-74	(1,162)	(629)		30.7	35.7	19.1	33.1	23.0	2.9	6.3
5-79	(697)	(688)		22.8	30.7	13.2	25.9	18.8	0.7	5.3
0-84	(392)	(375)		22.8	28.9	13.0	25.6	18.6	0.7	9.9
5 & over	(209)	(205)		14.4	32.0	9.5	25.4	12.4	1.0	5.8
	()	(800)	,,,	1-1	32.0	9.5	20.4	12.4	1.0	3.8
Type of household										
lderly alone	(1,144)	(809)	96	21.4	29.2	10.9	23.9	12.5	1.8	4.0
lderly couple	(1,705)	(1,099)		37.0	42.4	27.1	38.8	26.0	4.0	6.8
lderly siblings	(108)	(82)		17.6	21.3	14.9	19.4	13.0		5.6
Others - one elderly	(556)	(379)		38.7	45.4	22.3	34.0		1.9	3.7
Others - more than one elderly	(356)	(253)		32.4	38.7	23.3		32.4	5.7	6.1
and one orderry	(000)	(~~)	10	32.4	30.7	40.0	35.1	31.5	4.6	6.1

Table 14.4.5 All purposes for which elderly persons use cars (by standard region, population density)

		Purposes for	or which car i	s used				
		Shopping	Visiting	Holidays	Pleasure trips	Doctor/ hospital	Work	Others
Standard region								
North	%	33.0	34.6	21.8	25.4	27.4	4.8	6.4
Yorks & Humberside	%	33.9	40.0	23.9	34.5	23.4		
Northwest	%	22.3	33.3	14.4	30.1	19.4	3.0 1.9	6.3 7.6
E Midlands & E Anglia	%	30.1	43.6	26.8	37.5	22.5		
W Midlands	%	29.6	35.1	17.6	27.2	20.8	2.1	5.2
Greater London	%	19.0	30.1				3.1	4.9
Southeast & Southwest	%	41.0	43.4	16.3	26.9	18.0	3.1	3.9
boutheast to bouthwest	7/0	41.0	43.4	24.2	41.1	30.9	3.6	8.3
'Retirement areas'	%	39.8	41.1	20.9	41.7	34.6	4.8	9.2
All areas	%	31.6	38.3	21.0	34.3	24.9	3.2	6.2
B								
Population density								
Greater London	%	19.0	30.1	16.3	26.9	18.0	3.1	3.9
Metropolitan counties	%	26.3	33.3	18.6	30.5	19.1	2.7	6.4
Non-metropolitan counties:								
high	%	24.0	37.1	15.9	28.5	18.8	2.8	6.6
medium	%	39.0	41.9	23.5	34.2	26.8	4.5	6.2
low	%	39.5	43.6	25.1	41.8	31.9	3.3	6.9

and is mainly accounted for by trips made with people outside the household.

Among housewives the percentages who go shopping by car are:

Self-driven By other in household By person outside	% 7.7 12.1 9.4
Total	29.2

The rank order does not differ greatly between regions, nor between areas of different population density. The extent of use does differ. Nearly always an area shows a consistently high or consistently low level of use for all purposes. The much lower level of car usage in the Greater London area is particularly striking.

14.5 Public transport facilities

We have shown that over two-thirds of elderly people live in households without cars, and that nearly half (apart from bedfast and housebound) go out less than once a fortnight by car. For many, therefore, their ability to participate in social activities other than those within walking distance depends on the availability and cost of public transport. All those able to go out were therefore asked: 'are there any arrangements in this area for elderly people to use public transport free or at a reduced rate?' (B. R. Senior Citizen cards were excluded.)

It might be thought that the important finding would be whether or not facilities existed, but in this instance the high level of lack of awareness in some groups is also important.

Bedfast and housebound are included in the totals to facilitate comparisons. They are shown separately in the table.

Judging by the Greater London area, which is clearly defined and where facilities exist over the whole of it, positive answers can reasonably be regarded as accurate.

The level of awareness is lower among those aged 80 and over. It is not uncommon to find that very old people tend to be ignorant about services and facilities which might be of benefit to them. The regional variations in awareness can probably be attributed to the non-homogeneous nature of many of them, containing as they do different local authorities which provide or do not provide facilities. The same can be said about areas of different population density.

Table 14.5.1 Awareness of arrangements for elderly people to use public transport free or at reduced cost (by sex, age, region, population density)

	(3,869) (1,540) (2,329) (1,409) (1,162) (697) (220) (248) (380) (523) (523) (523) (438)	(Unweighted		Informan	ts answeri	ng:	
	BASES	figures)		B/fast h/bound	There are facilities	There are NO facilities	Don't know
All elderly persons	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	4.5	68.6	15.4	11.5 = 100
Sex					69.2	16.0	11.3
Men		(994)	%	3.4	68.2	14.9	11.7
Women	(2,329)	(1,628)	%	5.2	08.2	14.9	11.7
Age		(805)	96	1.1	72.2	16.3	10.4
65-69		(725)	%		73.1	14.5	9.9
70-74		(629)	96	5.9	68.0	15.5	10.6
75-79		(688)	96		57.7	16.1	14.8
80-84		(375)	96		41.6	12.4	25.4
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	20.6	41.0	12.4	20.7
Region					71.0	12.5	10.5
North		(164)	%		84.7	5.0	4.5
Yorks & Humberside		(268)	%		83.4	3.0	6.4
Northwest		(383)	%		69.5	11.3	14.8
E Mids & E Anglia		(356)	%			1.8	7.3
W Midlands		(257)	96		88.6	0.2	4.4
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%		89.8		22.9
Southeast & Southwest	(839)	(575)	9		56.7	17.4	10.7
'Retirement areas'	(458)	(306)	9/	2.8	17.7	68.8	10.7
Population density					89.8	0.2	4.4
Greater London	(472)	(313)	9		88.8	1.0	3.7
Metropolitan counties Non-metropolitan	(974)	(666)	9	6.5	8.66	1.0	5.7
counties:		(227)		6 4.2	83.7	2.0	10.1
high	(496)	(337)	9		46.9	31.3	17.9
medium	(550)	(365)	9		50.3	29.2	17.5
low	(1,377)	(941)	9	0 3.1	30.3	27.2	

Table 14.5.2 Facilities provided for elderly people (by standard region)

	Standa	rd region							
	Total	North	Yorks & Hum	N.W.	E. Mids E. Ang.	W. Mids	G. London	S.E. & S.W.	Retire- ment
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Summary of facilities									,,,
Bedfast, housebound	4,5	6.0	5.8	7.3	4.4	2.3	5.5	3.0	2.8
No facilities, don't know whether any facilities	26.9	23.0	9.5	9.4	26.1	9.1	4.6	40.3	79.5
Pass issued free	40.4	33.9	66.3	53.5	30.8	48.8	88,6	13.7	9.2
Pass issued on payment	4.3		0.5	2010	1.5	27.3	1.3	5.4	
Tokens issued free	17.7	33.9	13.4	25.1	31.4	5.7	1,5	24.1	4.6
Tokens issued on payment	1.4	0.4	3.4	0.5	2.3	1.3	_	2.6	4.0
Special old people's bus	1.4					1.5	_	4.8	3.5
Others, not stated	3.3	2.8	1.1	4.2	3.4	5.5	=	6.2	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nature of facilities									
Travel free at all times	14.5	26.6	17.4	25.8	29.5	9.1	3.0	6.4	5.5
Travel free at certain times	30.7	26.2	33.9	21.1	21.6	46.2	86.2	21.2	
Reduced rate at all times	13.0	17.7	31.8	34.0	10.7	2.1	00.2	8.7	2.0
Reduced rate at certain times	5.8	_	0.5	1.2	1.5	30.9	_	6.9	6.8
Not stated	3.1	0.4	1.1	1.2	6.1	0.3	0.6	8.7	-
None, not stated, bedfast or housebound	32.9	29.0	15.3	16.7	30.6	11.4	10. I	48.1	85.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
									100.0
Informants who have a pass/tokens ⁽¹⁾ Informants who have a pass as a per cent of	55.0	56.5	77.4	73.1	53.4	73.2	75.8	36.9	11.1
those who know facilities exist(1)	80.6	79.5	91.3	87.7	76.9	82.7	84.4	65.1	63.0

⁽¹⁾ Excluding bedfast and housebound,

Table 14.5.3 Facilities provided for elderly people (by population density)

	Total	Population	on density			
	% 4.5 26.9 40.4 4.3 17.7 1.4 1.4 3.3 100.0 14.5 30.7 13.0 5.8 3.1 32.9 100.0	Greater	Metro- politan	Non-me	etropolitan o	ounties
		London	counties	High	Medium	Low
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Summary of facilities Bedfast, housebound						
Bediast, nouseoound	4.5	5.5	6.5	4.2	4.0	3.1
No facilities, don't know of any	26.9	4.6	4.7	12.1	49.2	46.7
Pass issued free	40.4	88.6	81.7	45.2	6.4	6.5
Pass issued on payment	4.3	1.3	0.2	13.1	10.4	2.6
Tokens issued free	17.7	_	4.8	12.9	26,4	31.2
Tokens issued on payment	1.4		-	1.0	0.9	3.3
Special old people's bus	1.4	-	_	8.1	0.7	0.9
Others, not stated	3.3	_	2.0	3.4	2.2	5.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nature of facilities						
Travel free at all times	14.5	3.0	6,6	2.6	18.9	26.5
Travel free at certain times	30.7	86.2	49.3	34.1	6.5	7.0
Reduced rate at all times	13.0	_	31.8	12.1	11.5	5.1
Reduced rate at certain times	5.8	_	0.9	20.2	8.2	5.2
Not stated	3.1	0.6	0.2	6.7	1.1	5.6
None, not stated, bedfast or						
housebound	32.9	10.1	11.2	24.4	53.8	50.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Informants who have pass/tokens(1)	55.0	75.8	81.6	58.7	30.9	37.3
puss, tokens	55.0	,5.0	01.0	30.7	30.9	31.3
of those who know facilities exist(1)	80.6	84.4	91.9	70.1	65,9	74.1

⁽¹⁾ Excluding bedfast and housebound.

Differences in awareness do not account for the differences in the percentages who say positively that no facilities exist in areas which we have defined as 'retirement areas'. It is noteworthy that in areas containing a much higher than average percentage of elderly people only a small minority have provisions for cheaper travel for them. However, a higher proportion in these areas drive their own cars.

Although the percentages said to provide facilities are higher in medium and low density areas than in 'retirement areas', they are still very low compared with high density areas. Where distances are great and cheap facilities not available, the cost of necessary journeys and social activities may be appreciable.

62.9 per cent of those with a car say that facilities exist, compared with 75.8 per cent of those without a car. The level of car ownership is higher in those areas where the extent of provision for transport facilities for the elderly is lower, but it is impossible to say which is cause and which is effect.

The extent to which facilities are provided vary so much between region and areas of different population densities that the opposite are based on all elderly persons, with bedfast and housebound and no facilities shown separately. This makes comparisons easier.

The figures speak for themselves and no comment is necessary, except possibly to point out the wide variations in facilities within regions as well as between regions.

Analysis by population density is also very revealing.

It should be mentioned that some informants who say they are able to travel free or at reduced rate qualified this by adding 'until the tokens run out'. The extent of this practice cannot be quantified, as no specific question was asked. Over the country as a whole 55 per cent of elderly people have the opportunity of free or reduced local travel, but the proportion varies widely in different parts of England. Where facilities exist the take-up also varies, possibly as a consequence of varying awareness or varying usefulness of available transport.

There is virtually no difference between the extent to which men and women take up the facilities available, but age differences are quite sharp.

Table 14.5.4 Take-up of facilities in different age-groups

	Age				
	65- 69	70 – 74	75- 79	80- 84	85 & over
	%	%	%	%	%
formants who have pass, tokens formants who have pass as	56.2	62.1	57.0	40.6	27.3
per cent of those who know facilities exist	77.9	88.9	83.7	70.4	65.5(1)

It will be remembered that the level of awareness of the existence of facilities is lower among those aged 85 & over, so this figure may be an overstatement of the actual situation.

14.6 Accessibility of some selected amenities

All except bedfast and housebound were asked how they would usually get to each of a number of selected amenities (public transport; chemists's shop; pub; post office; doctor's surgery) and how long it would usually take them. The nearest amenity was specified (except for own doctor's surgery) because, even if a person did not normally use that particular amenity, it would be possible for him or her to do so, and the distance of the nearest is a better test of difficulties to be overcome than the distance of the one which is used by choice or habit.

Table 14.6.1 Time taken to nearest public transport (by age and population density)

	Total	(Unweighted		Time to n	earest public	transport			
	WEIGHTED	figures)		5 mins or less	6-10 mins	11-15 mins	Over 15	Not(1) ans'd	B/fast h/bound
All ciderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	65.9	19.4	5.1	3.4	1.7	4.5 = 100
Age		(=0.5)		71.3	18.0	5.0	4.1	0.4	1.1
55-69	(1,409)	(725)		68.4	20.1	4.0	3.0	1.9	2.5
70-74	(1,162)	(629)			22.5	5.9	2.4	1.7	5.9
75-79	(697)	(688)		61.5	17.9	7.7	3.8	3.3	11.5
30-84	(392)	(375)		55.9		3.8	3.8	6.2	20.6
35 & over	(209)	(205)	%	48.3	17.2	3.0	3.0	0.2	
Population density					19.3	5.9	3.4	1.7	5.5
Greater London	(472)	(313)		64.2		4.3	1.4	1.3	6.5
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	%	69.4	17.0	4.3	1.4	1.5	
Non-metropolitan counties	s:				00.4	3.0	1.8	1.6	4.2
high	(496)	(337)		69.0	20.4	5.1	4.2	2.4	4.0
medium	(550)	(365)		59.8	24.5		5.2	1.7	3.0
low	(1,337)	(941)	%	65.2	18.7	6.0	3.4	1.7	5.0

Ir

⁽¹⁾ Including proxies.

There is not a great deal in common in the findings for all amenities, so we deal with them separately. Findings are based on all informants unless otherwise stated.

The main means of transport only was recorded, but the full journey time (eg walking at each end of a bus journey).

(a) Nearest public transport

Virtually all those able to go out (90 per cent out of 95.5 per cent) walk to the nearest public transport. 2.9 per cent go by car; among those aged 85 & over the figure is 6.2 per cent out of 79.4 per cent and among those living in low population density areas it is 5.4 per cent out of 94.8 per cent.

The great majority of elderly persons are within a ten minutes' journey of the nearest public transport. The only differences of any significance are shown in table 14 6 1

It can be said that for a small but appreciable proportion of elderly people access to public transport may be difficult, since a journey of more than ten minutes can be irksome even to those in good health.

Getting to public transport is usually only a preliminary to going to some particular place. In the case of other amenities, therefore, there is frequently mention of public transport as well as of other means.

(b) Nearest chemist's shop

This amenity was included because of the need to obtain prescriptions and other medicines. In emergency it would be reasonable to go to the nearest one.

The principal differences are once again between age groups and between people living in areas of different population density. We show these in full.

The differences between the age groups are largely accounted for by the higher percentages who do not go out and who depend on other car drivers in the older groups. Among different population density areas it is obvious that the journey to the nearest chemist's shop is a much more onerous undertaking in low density areas than in London or other high density areas.

The same thing is reflected in the journey times which follow. The greater use of public or private transport means that the journey times of the different age groups do not differ nearly so much as those of people living in areas of different population density.

For many elderly people who do not drive, the problem must be the availability of transport when needed (for example, for an urgent prescription).

(c) Nearest pub

While accessibility to a pub may not be necessary for the preservation of health, for some elderly people it may be a form of social activity that they have known throughout their lives. We therefore asked about the distance to the nearest pub, but in order to avoid offending the susceptibilities of some, we invited them to say if they would never go and recorded this. Time did not permit us to investigate whether this objection arose because they did not like this type of social life or because they held strong views that 'the devil's in the ginshop on the corner of the street'.

Two-thirds of those who would not go to a pub are women (this is a not unexpected finding in view of the attitudes about women going to pubs which prevailed up till recent years). Among both men and women the percentage who would not go increases with age.

Omitting the bedfast and housebound, and those who would not go, nearly nine-tenths of the remainder say they walk to the pub. Among those aged 80 and over an appreciable proportion of pub goers (11.7 per cent) rely on the services of other drivers. In areas of lowest population density 8.4 per cent of pub goers drive themselves and eight per cent are driven by others.

57 per cent of pub goers are within five minutes of the nearest one and a further 24.5 per cent within ten

Table 14.6.2 Means of transport used to nearest chemist's shop (by age and population density)

	Total WEIGHTED	(Unweight	ed	Means	of transpo	rt to chemi	st			B/fast
	WEIGHTED	figures)			Bus	Car(s/ drive)	Car (other)	Other	Not ⁽¹⁾ ans'd	h/bound
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	56.1	17.9	9.2	7.5	2.0	2.8	4.2=100
Age:										
65-69	(1,409)	(725)	%	62.4	15.4	14.1	5.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	96	56.9	18.9	9.5	6.3	2.8	3.1	2.5
75-79	(697)	(688)	%	53.4	21.8	4.0	10.2	2.1	2.6	5.9
80-84	(392)	(375)	%	44.1	20.4	4.1	11.0	2.6	6.4	11.5
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	40.7	10.5	1.4	16.7	1.9	8.1	20.6
Population density										
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%	79.7	3.8	4.0	2.3	0.8	3.8	5.5
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	%	63.1	18.5	6.0	2.8	0.7	2.5	6.5
Non-metropolitan counties:										
high	(496)	(337)	%	63.7	16.9	5.8	4.4	1.6	3.2	4.2
medium	(550)	(365)	%	55.3	15.6	10.4	8.7	2.0	4.0	4.0
low	(1,337)	(941)	%	40.6	23.5	13.9	13.4	3.4	2.2	3.0

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies

	Total	(Unweighted		Time of j	journey to c	hemist			B/fast h/bound
	WEIGHTED	figures)		Up to 5 min	6-10 mins	11-15 mins	16 mins or more	Not(1) stated 2.6	.,
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	29.3	29.3	17.8	16.5		4,5=100
Age	44 4000	(725)	04	34.3	30.9	17.6	15.6	0.5	1.1
65-69	(1,409)	(629)		27.6	32.3	17.7	17.2	2.8	2.5
70-74	(1,162)	(688)		29.8	25.5	18.9	16.8	3.0	5.9
75—79	(697)	(375)		19.6	25.5	18.9	18.9	5.6	11.5
80-84 85 & over	(392) (209)	(205)		21.5	21.5	14.4	12.9	9.1	20.6
Population density	(4773)	(313)	04	42.2	30.5	10.6	8.5	2.8	5.5
Greater London Metropolitan counties	(472) (974)	(666)		36.1	29.6	14.3	11.2	2.4	6.5
Non-metropolitan counties:		(222)	n	30.8	32.5	15.5	13.9	3.0	4.2
high	(496)	(337)		28.9	25.8	19.8	18.3	3.1	4.0
medium	(550)	(365)		19.7	28.9	22.9	23.1	2.4	3.0
low	(1,337)	(941)	70	19.7	20.7				

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies.

	Total	(Unweighted	М	eans o	f transpo	rt to post of	fice			B/fast h/bound
	WEIGHTED	WEIGHTED figures)		alk	ilk Bus	Car (s/ drive)	Car other	Other	Not ⁽¹⁾ ans'd	пробина
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	% 73	.4	6.2	5.7	5.3	1.8	3.1	4.5=100
Age		(505)	% 79	. 0	4.1	8.7	2.9	1.4	1.8	1.1
65-69	(1,409)	(725)			7.9	5.8	4.1	2.3	3.5	2.5
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	% 73		7.2	2.7	7.7	2.0	1.9	5.9
75-79	(697)	(688)	% 72			2.6	8.4	1.0	6.9	11.5
80-84	(392)	(375)	% 61		7.9		14.4	2.4	6.2	20.6
85 & over	(209)	(205)	% 50).7	4.8	1.0	14.4	2.4	0.2	20.0
Population density					3.6	0.8	1.5	1.4	3.0	5,5
Greater London	(472)	(313)	% 84		9.9	4.7	3.0	0.6	3.0	6.5
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	% 72	2.4	9.9	4.7	3.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
Non-metropolitan counties:						2.0	3,4	1.4	2.2	4.2
high	(496)	(337)	% 80		4.0	3.8		1.2	4.2	4.0
medium	(550)	(365)	% 70		7.1	6.7	6.2			3.0
low	(1,337)	(941)	% 68	8.8	5.0	8.4	8.6	3.0	3.1	3.0

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies.

	Total							B/fast h/bound
	WEIGHTED	WEIGHTED figures)		6-10 mins	11-15 mins	16 or more	Not ⁽¹⁾ stated	
Il elderly (3,869)	(2,622)	% 39.5	30.7	30.7 14.5 8.9 1.9	4.5=100			
Population density Greater London Metropolitan counties	(472) (974)	(313) (666)	% 44.7 % 40.6	26.3 30.0	13.3 11.7	8.4 9.7	1.7 1.5	5.5 6.5
Non-metropolitan counties: high medium low	(496) (550) (1,337)	(337) (365) (941)	% 36.1 % 37.5 % 39.1	36.3 30.4 30.8	12.7 16.5 16.7	9.9 9.7 8.3	1.8 2.0 2.1	4.2 4.0 3.0

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies.

minutes. There are some differences between areas of different population density, but these are almost entirely between five minute and ten minute journeys. In all kinds of area at least eight out of ten pub goers are within ten minutes of one.

Admittedly the exclusion of those who say they would not go to a pub renders comparisons inexact (and it is at least possible that some would not go because of the

distance). However, it is an interesting reflection on accessibility that the journey to the nearest pub (for those who want it) is shorter on average than that to the nearest chemist's shop.

(d) Post office

Apart from the normal business transacted at post offices, virtually all old people need to go there regularly for the purpose of drawing their pension. The accessibility of a post office is thus of prime importance. We asked about the nearest post office, although some may make more use of another, because this distance is the shortest which must be covered.

Although a majority in all groups are able to walk to the nearest post office the much heavier dependence among the older and among those in less densely populated areas on public or private transport is apparent.

The differences in the times taken by people of different ages are not very great, bearing in mind the higher proportions among the very old who do not go out.

Post offices are more accessible than chemists' shops (it will be remembered that about one-sixth of all elderly and nearly a quarter of those in low-density areas have journeys of more than 15 minutes to the nearest chemist).

(e) Own doctor's surgery

We have said that we asked about the journey to elderly people's own doctor's surgery because it would be unlikely, even in emergency, that they would go to any other.

Although sizeable minorities walk or use public transport the heavy dependence on private transport (and on other drivers among the very old and those in low density areas) is very striking.

It is worth noting that in Greater London two-thirds of doctors' surgeries are within walking distance and a further 15.9 per cent can be reached by bus. In the densely populated areas walking and public transport are adequate for the great majority of the elderly population.

Table 14.6.7 shows the times taken for journeys to doctors' surgeries.

The journey times do not show a consistent pattern, either between age groups or between areas of differ-

Table 14.6.6 Usual means of transport to own doctor's surgery (by age and population density)

	Total WEIGHTED	(Unweight	ed	Means	of transpo	rt to doctor				B/fast
	WEIGHTED	figures)		Walk	Bus	Car (s/ drive)	Car other	Other	Not(1) stated	h/bound
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	%	43.6	22.4	11.3	12.3	2.3	3,6	4.5=100
Age										
65-69	(1,409)	(725)	%	49.2	19.4	18.0	9.3	1.3	1.7	1.1
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	%	44.3	25.9	11.2	9.9	3.0	3.2	2.5
75-79	(697)	(688)	%	40.6	26.7	5.3	14.8	2.9	3.9	5.9
80-84	(392)	(375)	%	34.7	19.6	4.3	19.9	2.6	7.4	11.5
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	27.8	13.4	0.5	23.9	3.8	10.0	20.6
Population density										
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%	65.3	15.9	5.5	3.0	1.7	3.2	5.5
Metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)		40.3	31.7	8.6	7.9	0.7	4.2	6.5
Non-metropolitan counties:										
high	(496)	(337)	%	45.2	28.6	7.5	8.5	1.8	4.2	4.2
medium	(550)	(365)	%	47.3	15.3	13.8	11.6	2.7	5.3	4.0
low	(1,337)	(941)	%	36.3	18.5	15.7	20.3	3.8	2.3	3.0

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies.

Table 14.6.7 Time taken to own doctor's surgery (by age and population density)

	Total WEIGHTED	(Unweight	ted	Time of	journey to o	loctor			B/fast
	WEIGHTEL	ngures)		Up to 5 min	6-10 mins	11-15 mins	16 or more	Not ⁽¹⁾ stated	h/bound
All elderly	(3,869)	(2,622)	- %	19.0	28.5	20.7	24.6	2.7	4.5=100
Age									
65-69	(1,409)	(725)	%	22.8	31.7	20.2	23.4	0.9	1.1
70-74	(1,162)	(629)	%	18.7	29.8	21.3	25.1	2.6	2.5
75-79	(697)	(688)		15.6	24.8	23.0	27.7	3.0	5.9
80-84	(392)	(375)	%	13.3	23.7	21.7	24.0	5.9	11.5
85 & over	(209)	(205)	%	17.7	22.0	11.5	19.6	8.6	20.6
Population density									
Greater London	(472)	(313)	%	22.0	25.2	22.2	23.1	1.9	5.5
Metropolitan counties Non-metropolitan counties	(974)	(666)	%	20.4	26.5	19.4	24.4	2.9	6.5
high	(496)	(337)	%	15.9	26.0	17.9	31.8	4.0	4.2
medium	(550)	(365)		23.6	28.0	20.4	19.6	4.4	4.0
low	(1,337)	(941)		16.3	32.2	22.2	24.6	1.7	3.0

⁽¹⁾ Includes proxies.

ent population density. This is probably a consequence of the different means of transport and, in the case of age groups, of the different proportions of housebound and bedfast.

What emerges clearly is that the average journey time to the doctor's surgery exceeds that to any of the other amenities investigated.

14.7 General comment on accessibility of

We have given details of age groups and of areas of different population densities. The differences between other population groups are either not great enough to be worth showing or are explicable in tems of the detais given. For example, there is very little difference in the percentages of men and women who walk or use public transport to any amenities. The major difference is between those who drive themselves and those who are driven by others.

While there are some differences between standard regions, these can be explained by the differences in population density.

Detailed figures can be made available if required.

15 Interests and hobbies of the elderly and their attitudes to life

15.1 Introduction

In this section we cover elderly people's interests and hobbies, their personal attitudes to their lives and their suggestions for things that might be done to make things better for them.

Had time permitted it would have been useful to have investigated in more detail the ways in which elderly people spend their time, particularly on things other than necessary tasks. However, the aspects covered do give a general picture of the lives of elderly people.

15.2 Pets

The devotion of many old people to their pets is well-known and there is evidence that for many people, not only the elderly, ownership of a pet is of therapeutic value.

We asked a series of questions about the pets owned by the elderly, in order to find out the extent of pet ownership, whether the elderly have any difficulty in looking after their pets and whether many of those without a pet would like one.

The findings in respect of pets are, perhaps, a little unexpected. There is little difference in the extent of pet ownership between men and women, or between housebound and others, but there are marked differences between age-groups and between those living in households of different sizes.

Older people are less likely to have pets of their own but more likely to welcome neighbours' pets. Possibly animal-lovers who do not feel capable of looking after a pet obtain some solace from the company of other people's.

Where there are two or more elderly people in a household they frequently, but not always, claim joint ownership of the same pet. The figures, therefore, show the percentage of elderly people who have ownership (either sole or joint) of a pet and not necessarily the percentage of households (except for one-person households). However, the majority of two-person households consist of elderly married couples or siblings, and an appreciable proportion of households with three or more persons contain only one elderly person, so the different percentages are not entirely a numerical artefact. It therefore seems legitimate to conclude that many elderly people living alone do not feel albe to undertake the responsibility of keeping a pet. (see later paragraph)

Four per cent of pet owners report difficulty in looking after pets, but the percentage increases sharply with age (2.8 per cent; 6.3 per cent and 11.1 per cent in the three age groups respectively). Among bedfast and housebound the figure reaches 35.7 per cent (the number of

Table 15.2.1 Pet ownership by the elderly (by age of person and size of household)

	Total	Age			Persons	in househo	old
		65-74	75-84	85 & over	One	Two	Three or more
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(2,571) (1,354) %	(1,089) (1,063) %	(209) (205) %	(1,144) (809) %	(2,120) (1,406) %	(605) (407) %
Persons who:							
Have pets of own:(1)	28.4	30.4	25.1	21.5	19.5	28.0	47,3
Cat(s)	11.3	12.0	9.1	13.4	6.5	11.1	21.3
Dog(s)	12.9	14.2	10.9	7.7	6.8	12.3	26.4
Cagebird(s)	7.9	8.1	8.0	4.3	7.5	7.5	9.9
Other(s)	2.7	3.2	1.8	1.0	1.3	2.2	6.9
Are visited by neighbours'							
pets:(2)	6.7	5.8	7.5	12.9	8.2	6.8	3.1
Have NO pets and are not visited	64.9	63.8	67.4	65.6	72.3	65.2	49.6
Total:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Some people have more than one kind of pet.

⁽²⁾ This was recorded only if informants had no pets of their own. It implies that the visits are welcome (eg 'neighbour' cat comes in for a drink' but not 'dog next door digs up my plants').

Table 15.2.2 Reasons for not having a pet (by age, mobility and size of household)

	Total	Age			Mobility		Persons	in h'hold	
		65-74	75-84	85 & over	B'fast h'bound	Goes Out	One	Two	Three & more
NON-owners WEIGHTED unweighted figures)	(2,768) (1,902)	(1,787) (944) %	(817) (797) %	(164) (161) %	(132) (113) %	(2,636) (1,789) %	(922) (654) %	(1,527) (1,030) %	(319) (218) %
Reasons for not having a pet Restrictions in accommodation	6.9	6.1	8.2	8.5	9.1	6.8	8.6	6.7	2.8
Accommodation unsuitable Area dangerous for pets	6.4 4.9	6.8 4.8	5.5 5.3	6.7 4.9	6.8 3.8	6.4 5.0	7.3 4.8	5.7 5.5	7.2 2.5
Too much trouble to look after	38.3	35.7	42.4	45.1	33.3	38.6	41.0	36.1	40.4
one to look after pet when inft(s) out, away	22.3	27.2	15.2	4.9	-	23.5	28.9	20.8	10.7
Joset at death of last pet	13.1	14.6	10.9	7.9	12.1	13.2	8.6	13.9	22.6
lealth not good enough	9.7	7.2	14.0	16.5	32.6	8.6	13.0	8.3	6.9
Too expensive to keep	5.6	6.4	5.0	0.6	2.3	5.8	6.0	6.2	2.2
Don't like animals	8.4	9.0	7.3	7.3	4.5	8.6	8.8	8.1	8.5
Other reasons	10.9	10.1	13.3	9.1	12.1	11.0	11.1	10.7	11.6
No reason given (including proxies)	6.0	5.1	6.2	14.0	19.7	5.3	2.7	6.5	13.5

pet owners in this group is small but even so the difference between them and the non-housebound, where the figure is 2.7 per cent is significant). Three-quarters of bedfast and housebound live with others, but over one third live with an elderly spouse or sibling only, which probably accounts for the high figure.

We asked those with no pets if there were any reasons why they had none. There are differences between the answers given by those of different ages, mobility and household size.

It might be assumed that those who mention restrictions on pets in their accommodation are implying that otherwise they would have a pet. However, although the percentage of these people who say they would like a pet were it not for the restrictions (35.9 per cent) is considerably higher than among others (10.6 per cent), it is evidently not only the prohibition which deters them.

It is possible that some would-be pet owners could be enabled to have a pet by some kind of assistance in looking after the pet, but many of the problems mentioned could not be overcome by any reasonable means.

12.4 per cent of all non-owners (8.8 per cent of all elderly people) say they would like a pet. The only marked differences between groups are that 18.9 per cent of bedfast/housebound non-owners, compared with 12.0 per cent of non-housebound, would like a pet, and that 9.4 per cent of non-owners living alone, compared with 21.3 per cent of those in households of three or more would like a pet.

Pet-owners include almost equal proportions who have cats and dogs, but among would-be owners 30.4 per cent

say they would like a cat, 77.8 per cent a dog (some would like both) and 10.5 per cent cage birds. Time did not permit an investigation of the reasons for their choice, but possibly the question of protection has some influence.

15.3 Membership of voluntary organisations

Membership of voluntary organisations may be of value to elderly people, particularly in enabling them to meet other people and to make a contribution to the life of the community.

In the preliminary work for the survey we found that many informants were not clear what was meant by voluntary organisations. We therefore found it necessary to 'prompt' and in order to avoid giving undue emphasis to a few organisations we used a long list, as shown in the table below, which covered a wide variety of organisations.

The lower percentage of women than of men who belong to any organisation can be almost entirely accounted for by the higher percentages of men who belong to organisations not on the prompt list. The falling-off with increasing age of membership of any organisation is much greater in the case of women than of men.

Analysis by marital status shows only small differences, except that single people are more likely to be members of religious organisations (24.3 per cent) and divorced or separated people less likely (2.4 per cent).

We asked those who belong to any organisation whether they hold any office. 6.5 per cent of all elderly people hold office (8.4 per cent of men, 5.4 per cent of women).

Table 15.3.1 Membership of voluntary organisations (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men-ag	e			Women-	-age		
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994) %	(1,101) (565) %	(384) (375) %	(55) (54) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,470) (789) %	(705) (688) %	(154) (151) %
Membership of organisations									
Church & religious									
organisations(1)	12.6	7.7	8.0	6.2	12.7	15.8	16.3	16.0	11.0
British Legion	3.5	5.8	5.4	7.0	5.5	1.9	2.3	1.4	
Vomen's Institute	2.9	_			_	4.9	5.9	3.5	0.6
Townswomen's Guild	1.0		_	_		1.6	1.8	1.3	1.3
Organisations for OAPs	7.9	5.8	5.4	7.3	1.8	9.4	9.9	9.5	3.9
Ratepayers' Association	1.4	1.9	2.4	0.8	_	1.1	1.2	1.1	_
Frade union	2.5	5.8	6.7	3.9	1.8	0.3	0.5	_	_
Political organisation	4.3	5.3	4.8	7.3	_	3.7	4.2	3.3	0.6
Professional organisation	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.6	_	1.8	2.6	0.3	0.6
Red Cross	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.3		1.4	1.6	1.4	_
WRVS	1.6		-	_	_	2.7	3.7	0.9	1.3
Others	12.5	19.0(2)	19.8	16.7	18.2	8.2	9.9	5.8	1.9
None	63.8	60.6	59.3	63.0	67.3	66.0	62.2	69.8	83.8

⁽¹⁾ Does not include church going only.

As might be expected, there is a diminution with increasing age in the percentage of office holders, but among the admittedly small group of men aged 85 and over, 5.4 per cent hold office.

In view of the complaints of loneliness expressed by some informants it seemed possible that some elderly people might be helped by being put in touch with voluntary organisations. We therefore asked those who belong to none whether they would like to do so and, if so, which ones (the same prompt list was used).

Ten per cent of non-members (6.3 per cent of all elderly people) say they would like to belong. Among men the figures are 9.3 per cent of non-members, 5.6 per cent of all men, and among women 10.4 per cent of non-members, 6.8 per cent of all women. The numbers are too small for detailed analysis, but organisations for old age pensioners are most popular among men and women taken together, while among women religious organisations and the Women's Institute are not far behind.

These findings show that an appreciable number of elderly people take part in voluntary activities but that these are mainly confined to those under 85 years of age. A small, but not negligible, number could be given additional interests by being recruited into organisations, but, once again, these are mainly the younger elderly.

15.4 Hobbies and interests

We asked an open, unprompted question of all elderly people: 'Have you any hobbies or interests?' If yes: 'what are they?' (This came later than the questions relating to membership of organisations, so this type of activity does not appear here). Experience at the pilot stage showed that many people who sometimes did some reading, watching TV, listening to the radio or knitting (women) did not mention these, so we used a series of 'prompt' questions wherever these were not mentioned: 'Do you do any (reading) (watching TV) (listening to the radio) (knitting—women only)?"

It seems likely that things that are named only after prompting are less important to the people concerned than those which are mentioned spontaneously. They are therefore shown separately.

The most striking differences are those between men and women in different age groups, so these are shown in detail. We comment on other marked differences later.

If prompted mentions of reading, watching TV, listening to radio and knitting are regarded more as ways of passing the time than as absorbing interests, then it can be said that over one-fifth of elderly men and women have no absorbing interests and that the proportion rises to over a third among men and women aged 85 and over. This may seem too severe a judgment but evidence from other surveys⁽¹⁾ seems to indicate that between 12 per cent and 22 per cent of younger adults have no special hobbies or pastimes.

The differences between the hobbies and interests of men and women are what commonsense would lead one to expect. Nearly every hobby shows a decline in participants with increasing age. This applies not only to hobbies which require physical effort. The 85 and over age-groups include lower percentages who have any

⁽²⁾ One per cent of men are Freemasons.

A survey of women's employment (HMSO 1968); Families and their needs (HMSO 1973).

Table 15.4.1 Hobbies and interests of elderly people (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men-ag	e			Women-	-age		
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & ove
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622) %	(1,540) (994)	(1,101) (565) %	(384) (375) %	(55) (54) %	(2,329) (1,628) %	(1,470) (789) %	(705) (688) %	(154) (151) %
Hobbies and interests						21.7	16.2	29.7	37.0
None (before prompting) None (after prompting)	21.8 0.7	21.8 0.7	18.5 0.4	29.2 1.0	34.5 3.6	21.7 0.7	0.3	0.2	5.8
Reading (spontaneously)	26.8	18.9	18.9	18.7	20.0	32.1	33.3	29.9	30.5
Reading (prompted)	55.4	64.1	65.7	60.9	54.5	49.7	50.6	49.9	39.6
TV (spontaneously)	20.3	16.1	15.6	16.9	20.0	23.1	23.2	22.3	26.6
ΓV (prompted)	71.0	75.1	76.5	74.0	56.4	68.3	70.7	66.1	55.2
Radio (spontaneously)	7.2	5.1	4.3	6.2	14.5	8.6	8.2	8.8	11.7
Radio (prompted)	68.7	70.6	71.8	68.7	58.2	67.5	70.3	65.7	49.4
Cnitting (spontaneously)	20.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	_	34.1	39.5	25.5	22.7
Cnitting (prompted)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	13.1	14.6	11.6	6,5
Gardening	26.2	39.0	44.8	25.3	20.0	17.6	21.8	11.5	5.8
Needlework	12.2	_	_	_	_	20.3	21.7	19.7	9.7
ndoor games	10.3	11.9	13.4	8.9	5.5	9.2	10.7	7.0	5.8
Music (listening or performing)	7.6	8.4	9.3	6.2	7.3	7.1	7.6	5.8	7.8
Arts and crafts	6.5	7.2	7.4	7.0	3.6	6.0	7.6	3.8	0.6
Outdoor sport (participant)	5.8	11.6	14.1	5.2	5.5	1.9	2.9 3.4	0.3 1.6	0.6
Repairs and redecoration	5.5	9.9	11.7	6.0	5.5	2.7 7.3	3.4 8.4	6.1	3.2
Cooking, preserving, wine making	5.1	1.8	1.6	1.8	9.1	1.1	1.5	0.4	3,2
Outdoor sport (spectator)	4.7	10.2	11.4	7.0	9.1 1.8	3.0	3.9	1.7	
Walking	3.7	4.9	6.0 2.5	2.3 0.8	3.6	4.4	4.7	4.4	1.9
Church activities Woodwork	3.5 3.4	2.1 8.4	9.8	4.9	3.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	-
Other hobbies and interests(1)	18.4	19.7	20.9	17.2	12.7	17.8	21.2	12.5	9.0

(1) Includes work with organisations (apart from membership); motoring; visiting; entertaining; dancing; cinema; theatre; writing etc.

hobbies and the people in these groups who do have hobbies have fewer on average than the younger groups.

The percentages who have no hobbies in other groups

are:		
	Before prompting %	After prompting %
Employment status		
Working	17.5	-
Not working	22.2	0.7
Mobility		
Bedfast, housebound	46.6	5.2
Goes out	20.3	0.5
Persons in household		
One	19.4	0.4
Two	22.4	0.7
Three or more	24.0	1.2

The differences between the hobbies of workers and non-workers are not very great and can be almost entirely accounted for by the higher percentage of men among workers.

Bedfast and housebound elderly are precluded by their condition from having hobbies outside the home. They do not compensate for this by a higher percentage who have hobbies inside the home. With the minor exceptions of TV watching and radio listening (before prompting) the percentage of bedfast and housebound who participate in each indoor hobby or interest is less than that of those able to go out.

The word 'reading' can cover many things. It was not feasible to investigate reading habits in great detail, but in order to obtain some idea of the importance which might be ascribed to it, we asked: 'Do you read books, magazines, newspapers?' Age and sex differences are pronounced, as shown below.

Table 15.4.2 Type of reading (by age within sex)

	Grand	Men-age				Women-	-age		
	Total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
What read Books Magazines Newspapers	53.6 47.9 74.0	48.3 39.9 79.9	51.0 43.1 81.7	43.5 32.8 75.8	27.3 25.5 72.7	57.1 53.2 70.2	62.0 54.6 68.2	50.4 50.9 72.2	40.9 50.0 59.7
Do not read	17.8	17.0	15.4	20.3	25.5	18.2	16.1	20.1	29.9

Table 15.4.3 Percentages in different groups who have difficulty with hobbies and nature of difficulties described (percentages are based on totals of groups on left)

	Have difficulty	Nature of dif	ficulty	
	of any kind	Eyesight	Other health	Other
	%	%	%	%
All elderly persons	15.7	8.3	7.0	1.8(1)
Men				
65-74	11.2	3.5	6.6	2.3
75-84	18.2	9.6	8.1	1.6
85 and over	27.3	18.2	9.1	1.8
All men	13.5	5.6	7.1	2.1
Women				
65-74	11.6	4.9	6.0	1.3
75-84	24.5	17.0	8.1	1.1
85 and over	35.1	27.9	11.0	1.9
All women	17.1	10.1	7.0	1.6
Employment				
Working	7.5	1.9	3.2	2.4
Not working	16.5	9.0	7.4	1.7
Mobility				
Bedfast, housebound	36.8	25.9	15.5	0.6
Goes out	14.7	7.5	6.6	1.8
Persons in household				
One	18.4	10.8	7.6	1.7
Two	13.7	6.3	6.4	2.1
Three or more	17.4	10.4	7.9	0.3

^{(1) 0.9} per cent mention financial difficulties.

Newspapers are more popular with men, books and magazines with women. There is a decline with increasing age in the percentages reading each kind of material: the drop is comparatively small in the case of women's readership of magazines.

The last question dealing with hobbies and interests were: 'Do you have any difficulties in carrying on your hobbies and interests?' If yes: 'what difficulties?'

A few people mention more than one kind of difficulty. Hence the total of difficulties exceeds the percentages who have difficulties.

The extent and nature of the difficulties follow the pattern which might be anticipated.

The overwhelming majority of difficulties are occasioned by failing eyesight or poor health and therefore the almost universal answer to the question 'What, if anything, could be done to help you carry on with them?' was 'nothing'.

It is apparent that those groups which include the highest percentages with no hobbies or interests also include the highest percentages who are finding it increasingly difficult to carry on with the hobbies they have.

15.5 A note on attitude questions

The remaining questions dealt with elderly people's attitudes to their lives and their suggestions for improvements. These were questions which could not be asked of proxies.

It would have been possible to base the relevant tables on non-proxy interviews, but this would involve the implicit assumption that the answers given by people interviewed by proxy would correspond in terms of percentages with those given by elderly people interviewed directly. Most proxy interviews were with people too infirm to be interviewed personally, so this assumption appears to be unjustified. The tables are therefore based on all elderly people and the percentage of proxies in each group is shown separately.

If for any reason it is desired to omit the proxies this can be done by a simple re percentaging process.

15.6 Things liked and disliked about lives at present

All elderly people were asked two questions: 'What, if anything, do you particularly dislike about your own life at present?' 'And what do you particularly enjoy?' Answers were not prompted, pre-codes being used merely as a time saver.

Questions such as these are important, especially at the end of a long and mainly factual interview, because they frequently make it possible to obtain some idea of the kinds of things, some of them non-material, which influence the physical and mental well-being of informants.

We show first of all the percentages of people in different groups who say they find nothing to dislike particularly and nothing to enjoy particularly in their present lives. These were not questions which could be

Table 15.6.1 Elderly people who find nothing in their lives to dislike particularly or to enjoy particularly (by age within sex, mobility, employment, marital status and household type)

	Persons WEIGHTED	Unweighted figures	Find nothing to dislike particularly	Find nothing to enjoy particularly	Proxies
All elderly persons	(3,869)	(2,622) %	50.9	9.4	2.8
vien aged:				8.2	1.5
55-74	(1,101)	(565) %	52.9 51.8	9.4	4.7
75-84	(384)	(375) %	38.2	7.3	18.2
35 and over	(55)	(54) %		7.3 8.5	2.9
All men	(1,540)	(994) %	52.0	0.3	2.7
Vomen aged:					
55-74	(1,470)	(789) %	50.3	8.9	1.2
75-84	(705)	(688) %	49.8	9.9	4.4
85 and over	(154)	(151) %	50.7	20.1	10.4
All women	(2,329)	(1,628) %	50.1	10.0	2.7
Mobility					
Bedfast, housebound	(174)	(150) %	24.7	22.9	14.9
Goes out	(3,695)	(2,472) %	52.2	8.7	2.2
Joes out	(5,055)	(=,=) /-			
Employment	(272)	(206) %	61.6	4.0	1.3
Working	(372)		49.8	9.9	3.0
Not working	(3,497)	(2,416) %	49.0	7.7	5.0
Marital status					
Married	(2,029)	(1,297) %	55.3	7.5	2.3
Widowed	(1,451)	(1,069) %	44.3	12.3	3.7
Single	(304)	(208) %	57.2	5.9	3.0
Divorced etc	(85)	(48) %	37.6	14.1	-
Household type					
Elderly person alone	(1,144)	(809) %	43.2	10.9	0.5
Elderly married couple only	(1,705)	(1,099) %	56.2	7.5	1.9
Elderly siblings only	(108)	(82) %	65.7	10.2	8.3
Others—one elderly person only	(556)	(379) %	49.1	11.0	5.9
Others—more than one elderly person	(356)	(253) %	49.1	10.4	8.1

answered by a proxy and therefore we also show the percentage of proxies included in the group.

Some people both find something particularly to dislike and something to enjoy particularly, so percentages do not add to 100.

One could take the optimistic view that half the elderly population find nothing to dislike particularly in life. On the other hand half do find something to dislike and 9.4 per cent find nothing to enjoy particularly. No comparable figures exist for the non-elderly population, so it is impossible to say whether elderly people are less or more satisfied with their existence than are younger people.

For most groups the percentages are very similar, but a few are very different. Men aged 85 and over are less likely than most to find nothing to dislike and women aged 85 and over are more likely than most to find nothing to enjoy particularly in life.

The bedfast and housebound are undoubtedly the least happy group. They include by far the highest percentage with nothing to enjoy (once again the comparatively high percentage of proxies does not affect this finding).

Taking into account both those with nothing to dislike and those with nothing to enjoy, the most contented groups are: those who are working; the married; the single; elderly siblings living together. The least contented are: men and women aged 85 and over; the bedfast and housebound (especially so); widowed; divorced; those living alone.

Some of the attitudes of some of these groups can be attributed to a combination of circumstances. Sometimes, however, it seems that one circumstance predominates. This appears to be so in the case of elderly workers. These are younger and healthier on average than most other groups, but they are more contented than either younger or non-housebound elderly.

There are so many variations between the dislikes and enjoyments of different groups that it is clearer to show them in detail rather than attempt to summarise. (Base figures are not repeated as they have already been shown Tables are based on all elderly people).

The differences between the answers of men and women lie much more in their enjoyments than their dislikes.

It is perhaps surprising, in view of women's greater infirmities (described elsewhere) that the differences in percentages complaining of ill-health should be so small, even taking age group with age group. The differences are a little more marked on the positive side: men are more likely to enjoy good health, particularly among

those aged 85 and over. Both sexes mention ill-health more frequently than financial difficulties.

The most marked differences in enjoyments between the sexes are those between the percentages who enjoy the company of family and friends and those between the percentages who enjoy outdoor activities.

Age differences are greater, for the most part, than those between the sexes. They follow the pattern which might be expected: outdoor activities, social activities and holidays decrease with age, reading increases with age. The euphoria arising from the freedom of retirement soon diminishes, particularly in the case of men.

Some of the differences are those which are to be expected by the situations of the people in the groups. Bedfast and housebound are more likely to be afflicted by poor health and are unable to participate in outdoor activities, working people cannot enjoy the pleasures of retirement, married people cannot be suffering from the loss of a partner.

The interesting differences are those which are quite striking but appear to be unrelated to the situation of the individual.

The small group of divorced people differ quite markedly from others. Considerably fewer find nothing to dislike and more find nothing to enjoy. Not one of them complains of loneliness through losing a partner, but the percentage who suffer loneliness from other causes is higher. The percentage who complain of poor health is much higher but so too is the percentage who enjoy their good health.

It seems that independence can be interpreted in two ways: for the working elderly it seems to mean that they are not dependent on things such as supplementary benefits, while for the non-workers that they are independent of the constraints of employment.

As might be expected loneliness due to one cause or another is more likely to be found among those living alone. It is not negligible, however, among those living

Table 15.6.2 Things particularly disliked and particularly enjoyed about life (by age within sex)

	Grand total	Men-	age			Women	-age		
	total	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Things disliked							,	,,,	70
Financial difficulties	5.9	7.3	8.8	3.9	1.8	4.9	6.3	2.8	1.3
Own poor health, disability	15.1	14.5	12.6	18.5	25.5	15,5	13.4	18.6	21.4
Poor health, disability of other member of							2011	10.0	21.4
household	2.9	2.3	2.0	3.4	_	3.3	3.6	3.4	0.6
Loss of partner, consequent loneliness	5.9	3.7	3.4	4.7	3.6	7.3	7.6	7.9	1.9
oneliness apart from this	7.0	3.5	3.1	4.4	5.5	9.3	9.0	10.5	6.5
nability to do certain things (not physical)	5.4	6.2	6.9	4.4	5.5	4.9	5.4	3.8	4.5
Boredom	3.6	5.1	6.3	2.1	1.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	1.3
Complaints about state of society, vandalism,									
strikes, bad manners, noise, etc	4.4	5.2	5.0	6.0	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.2
Other specific complaints	7.5	7.8	8.7	5.7	3.6	7.3	8.2	6.0	4.5
othing disliked particularly	50.9	52.0	52.9	1.8	38.2	50.1	50.3	49.8	50.7
roxy interviews	2.8	2.9	1.5	4.7	18.2	2.7	1.2	4.4	10.4
hings enjoyed									
ust happy, enjoys life, no further details									
ust nappy, enjoys me, no turtner details	13.4	12.9	12.5	14.8	7.3	13.7	14.1	13.3	12.3
njoys company of family, friends	29.3	23.1	23.3	21.9	25.5	33.4	34.4	33.3	24.0
njoys freedom, being at home, because retired	9.5	12.7	16.0	4.7	1.8	7.5	8.7	5.2	
ikes being independent	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.4	1.0	3.4	3.3	3.7	5.8
injoys indoor hobbies, pastimes (apart from			5.4	5.4		5.4	5.5	5./	2.6
reading)	23.6	23.6	22.8	25.8	23.6	23.6	22.5	25.2	26.6
njoys outdoor hobbies, activities	18.5	24.7	27.1	19.5	12.7	14.3	17.2		26.6
njoys reading	7.1	5.6	4.3	8.3	14.5	8.0	7.3	11.1	1.9
njoys social activities	16.8	16.5	18.0	13.8	5.5	17.0	19.0	8.9	9.7
las good health	6.7	7.5	8.3	5.2	9.1	6.2		15.2	6.5
njoys holidays, excursions	6.9	7.6	8.6	5.5	1.8	6.5	6.2	7.1	2.6
ikes eating, smoking, drinking	4.8	6.4	6.2	7.0	7.3	3.7	7.2 3.6	6.1 3.7	1.3
ther specific enjoyments	4.1	3.0	2.7	3.9	1.8	4.8	3.9	6.1	6.5
lo particular enjoyments	9.4	8.5	8.2	9.4	7.3	10.0	8.9	9.9	20.1
roxy interviews	2.8	2.9	1.5	4.7	18.2	2.7	1.2	4.4	10.4

Table 15.6.3 Things particularly disliked and particularly enjoyed about life (by mobility, employment, marital status)

	Mobility		Employme	ent	Marital st	atus		
	Bedfast, house- bound	Goes Out	Working	Not Working	Married	Widowed	Single	Divorced etc
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Things disliked			8.9	5.6	7.5	3.8	5.9	2.4
Financial difficulties	1.1	6.1	5.4	16.2	13.6	16.6	15.8	23.5
Own poor health, disability	44.8	13.7	3.4	10.2	15.0	10.0	1010	
oor health, disability of other member of		2.0	1.1	3.1	4.0	1.7	2.0	1.2
household	4.6	2.8		5.9		15.6		
oss of partner, consequent loneliness	1.7	6.1	5.9		2.2	13.0	8.2	15.3
oneliness apart from this	6.9	7.0	2.2	7.5		3.7	7.6	7.1
nability to do certain things (not physical)	9.8	5.2	5.6	5.4	6.3	3.7	2.6	8.2
Boredom	5.7	3.5	2.4	3.8	3.9	3.2	2.0	0.2
Complaints about state of society, vandalism, strikes, bad manners, noise, etc.	4,0	4.4	4.8	4.3	4.8	3.7	4.6	7.1
	3.4	7.7	7.3	7.5	8.4	5.2	8.9	17.6
Other specific complaints						44.3	57.2	37.6
Nothing disliked particularly	24.7	52.2	61.6	49.8	55.3			37.0
Proxy interviews	14.9	2.2	1.3	3.0	2.3	3.7	3.0	_
Things liked Just happy, enjoys life, no further details	11.5	13.5	13.4	13.4	14.3	12.1	14.1	11.8
				29.0	26.2	35.4	23.4	21.2
Enjoys company of family, friends Enjoys freedom, being at home, because	24.7	29.5	32.0					
retired	1.7	9.9	_	10.6	12.4	5.7	8.9	9.4
Likes being independent	1.1	3.4	10.7	2.5	2.5	3.5	7.9	4.7
Enjoys indoor hobbies, pastimes (apart from	20.2	23.4	23.4	23,6	22.1	24.4	28.0	30.6
reading)	28.2		23.4	17.9	20.7	14.7	20.4	23.5
Enjoys outdoor hobbies, activities		19.3	4.3	7.3	5.5	8.1	12.8	4.7
Enjoys reading	5.7	7.1	20.7	16.4	16.7	17.3	18.1	7.1
Enjoys social activities		17.6		6.7	7.1	6.3	4.9	12.9
Has good health	0.6	7.0	7.5		7.9	5.4	6.2	11.8
Enjoys holidays, excursions		7.3	8.6	6.7	5.0	4.8	3.9	1.2
Likes eating, drinking, smoking	5.2	4.8	3.0	5.0	5.0			
Other specific enjoyments	4.0	4.1	8.3	3.6	3.2	4.5	8.2	2.4
No particular enjoyments	22.9	8.7	4.0	9.9	7.0	11.5	5.9	14.1
Proxy interviews	14.9	2.2	1.3	3.0	2.3	3.7	3.0	_

in larger households which include only one elderly person. It should therefore not be assumed that living with others will of itself ease the pangs of bereavement or eliminate the desire to see family or friends outside the household.

Elderly married couples and elderly siblings appear to be most contented. The former group, taken overall, seem to have a more positive attitude in that they name more dislikes and enjoyments than the latter.

Looking at elderly people as a whole, it can be said that a great many appear to get a great deal out of life. There are some groups, however, for whom life seems to present a number of problems.

It may be a sign of human resilience that even among relatively disadvantaged groups, such as the bedfast and housebound, appreciable numbers still find there are things they can enjoy.

15.7 Suggestions for ways to help elderly people

We concluded the interview by asking 'Would you like to make any suggestions for things that could be done to help elderly people?'

The question was worded in this way so that people who, although elderly by our definition, do not think of themselves as elderly, would feel able to make suggestions which would apply to other people and would be the kind of things they themselves would like in the future.

The answers cannot be regarded as giving a complete picture, for reasons beyond our control. In the first place, it was not a question which could be answered by a proxy, and, as we have shown in a number of places, the percentage of proxies tends to be highest in the groups which are likely to be in greatest need. Secondly, it is common to find in surveys that older people tend to be

Table 15.6.4 Things particularly disliked and particularly enjoyed about life (by type of household)

	Type of	household			
	Elderly person alone	Elderly married couple	Elderly siblings only	Others- one elderly person	Others— more than one elderly person
Things disliked	%	%	%	%	%
Financial difficulties	3.5	7.7	5.6	5.2	6.2
Own poor health, disability	18.2	12.7	5.6	17.8	15.4
Poor health, disability, of other member of			-10	17.0	10.4
household	_	4.6	0.9	2.5	5.3
Loss of partner, consequent loneliness	16.5	-	2.8	5.6	1.4
Loneliness apart from this	17.2	2.2	0.9	5.8	0.8
Inability to do certain things (not physical)	4.3	6.2	3.7	4.7	6.7
Boredom	4.1	3.6	1.9	3.2	3.4
Complaints about state of society, vandalism, strikes, bad manners, noise, etc					
strikes, bad manners, noise, etc	4.3	4.5	3.7	3.6	5.9
Other specific complaints	6.3	8.1	7.4	7.0	9.0
Nothing disliked particularly	43.2	56.2	65.7	48.9	48.3
Proxy interviews	0.5	1.9	8.3	5.9	8.1
Things liked					
Just happy, enjoys life, no further details	11.8	15.0	13.0	12.9	11.8
Enjoys company of family, friends	35.8	25.7	20.4	31.5	24.4
Enjoys freedom, being at home, because retired	7.1	12.4	13.9	5.6	8.7
Likes being independent	5.6	2.8	1.9	1.4	2.2
Enjoys indoor hobbies, pastimes (apart from					
reading)	25.4	22.9	23.1	26.6	16.3
Enjoys outdoor hobbies, activities	17.7	20.5	14.8	14.7	17.7
Enjoys reading Enjoys social activities	9.9	5.9	9.3	· 6. I	4.2
Has good health	18.9	16.7	13.9		15.2
Enjoys holidays, excursions	6.6	7.3	6.5	6.3	5.3
Likes eating, drinking, smoking	6.7	8.4	3.7	4.0	5.9
Likes catting, utiliking, smoking	5.2	4.7	1.9	4.7	4.8
Other specific enjoyments	5.8	3.0	4.6	3.2	4.5
No particular enjoyments	10.9	7.5	10.2	11.0	10.4
Proxy interviews	0.5	1.9	8.3	5.9	8.1

Table 15.7.1 Suggestions for ways in which elderly people could be helped (by age within sex)

	Grand total	Men—a	ge			Women	-age		
		Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over	Total	65-74	75-84	85 & over
All elderly persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(3,869) (2,622)	(1,540) (994)	(1,101) (565)	(384) (375)	(55) (54)	(2,329) (1,628)	(1,470) (789)	(705) (688)	(154) (151)
Suggested forms of help	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
ncrease old age pensions	8.5	13.2	14.5	10.2	7.3	5.4			
Don't tax pensions	3.5	5.6	6.5	3.4	1.8	2.1	6.1 2.7	4.3	3.9
rovide free, cheap phones, phone calls	7.9	7.9	8.3	6.5	9.1	7.9	9.5	1.4 5.2	
lelp with fuel bills, free coal	10.1	11.5	12.0	10.9	5.5	9.2	11.3	5.8	4.5
lelp with TV licence, free licence	2.6	3.2	3.7	1.3	5.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	4.5 1.9
ntroduce, extend, free, cheap travel	7.0	8.2	9.4	-5.5	1.8	6.2	8.1	3.4	1.3
Other financial help	3.8	5.8	6.3	4.7	3.6	2.4	2.8	1.7	2.6
oluntary helpers to assist with tasks	6.8	5.6	6.1	4.9	1.8	7.6	8.2	6.7	5.2
oluntary helpers to chat, provide company	11.1	10.1	10.5	9.4	7.3	11.8	12.2	11.3	9.7
Regular medical, welfare visits	10.8	10.5	11.2	9.9	1.8	10.9	11.8	10.2	6.5
rovision of suitable housing	4.6	4.3	4.9	2.6	3.6	4.8	5.3	3.8	4.5
rovision of aids for handicapped	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.6	3.2
rovision of better public transport	3.2	3.2	2.8	4.7	1.8	3.2	4.0	1.8	1.3
rovision of recreational facilities	4.2	4.9	5.2	4.7	_	3.7	4.1	3.1	2.6
rovision of other local facilities (eg library,									2.0
post office, shops, pub)	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.1	Marin .	2.7	3.1	2.3	0.6
ther forms of assistance	5.3	6.2	6.4	6.0	5.5	4.7	5.6	3.1	3.2
lo suggestions	40.6	36.5	34.1	42.0	47.3	43.3	39.3	49.2	54.5
roxy interviews	2.8	2.9	1.5	4.7	18.2	2.7	1.2	4.4	10.4

Some people made more than one suggestion so percentages add to more than 100 per cent.

inarticulate when asked a completely open question of this kind. 'Prompting' would have defeated the main object of the question, which was to obtain elderly people's own ideas for improvements.

In interpreting the answers it seems reasonable to assume that they show relativities rather than absolute orders of magnitude and that many of those who offer no suggestions are lacking in powers of expression rather than completely satisfied with their lot.

Differences between the answers given by men and women and by people of different ages are, in some instances, quite marked. We therefore show these in detail and comment afterwards on other groups.

Because of the higher proportions of proxy interviews and of people unable to offer any suggestions, the percentages mentioning each individual form of help are much lower in most instances in the higher age-groups. The total of suggestions involving financial help of one kind or another decreases sharply with increasing age among both sexes, the drop being particularly marked between those aged 65–74 and those aged 75–84. This may indicate that the immediate drop in income on retirement is acutely felt by many people. It is noteworthy that among men the total percentage of financial suggestions exceeds the total percentage of others, while among women the reverse is the case.

The main difference between other groups is in the total percentage of financial suggestions made. There is not a similar variation in the total percentage of other types of suggestion. The total percentage of financial suggestions is above average in the case of working informants and married people and below average in the case of the bedfast and housebound, all the non-married groups and people living alone (the last-named is the only group where the total percentage of non-financial suggestions is significantly above average).

16 Relationship between income, material conditions and other circumstances

16.1 Introduction

In this chapter we bring together the answers given to a number of questions by people of different income levels, in order to show the magnitude of the differences in material circumstances and to examine the relationship between income levels and non-material factors.

Comparisons of housing and amenities are confined to those households where an elderly person is the head (or, in a few instances, the husband of an elderly wife). These account for 92.6 per cent of all households in the sample. In households with a younger head the level of housing and amenities would be more likely to be related to the income of the younger head, about which we have no information.

We recorded the combined income of married couples from all sources as a single entity and therefore married couples and non-married persons are shown separately throughout.

16.2 Tenure of accommodation

The marked increase in home ownership with increasing income is accompanied by an equally marked decline in council renting and a smaller decline in private renting.

It is noteworthy that, even in the lowest income group the percentage of owner-occupiers exceeds that of any other form of tenure.

The tenure of the accommodation of non-married heads does not follow quite the same pattern.

There is a comparatively high ownership figure in the lowest income group, which also includes the highest

Table 16.2.1 Tenure of accommodation of elderly married couples where husband is head (by total net

	Total(1)	Married couples' total net income from all sources			
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 or more
Elderly couples WEIGHTED (unweighted figures) Tenure	(1,185) (736) %	(574) (372) %	(315) (189) %	, (158) (96) %	(99) (57) %
Owner-occupier Rents: council Rents: private Lives rent-free Not stated	52.5 29.3 15.4 2.0 0.8	43.2 35.9 18.1 2.8	51.1 31.1 15.9 0.3 1.6	60.8 21.5 12.0 3.2 2.5	81.8 6.1 9.1 2.0 1.0
Γotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their incomes are not shown separately but are included in the total.

Table 16.2.2 Tenure of accommodation of elderly non-married heads (by total net income)

	Total(1)	Non-married heads' total net income from all sources			
		£749 or less	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 or
Non-married heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures) Tenure	(1,520) (1,075) %	(315) (227) %	(697) (500) %	(322) (226) %	(134) (87) %
Owner-occupier Rents: council Rents: private Lives rent-free	44.9 32.6 18.4 4.1	50.5 25.1 14.6 9.8	37.2 40.2 19.8 2.9	37.9 36.3 23.6 2.2	79.9 8.2 9.7 2.2
Fotal	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their incomes are not shown separately but are included in the total.

percentage dependant on state pension only and the lowest (apart from the top income group) who receive supplementary benefit. Owner-occupiers would not, of course, qualify for a supplementary benefit payment in respect of rent and would therefore receive a smaller supplementary benefit or none. Any rate rebate they received would not appear as income. Apart from the £750-£999 group the percentage of home-owners exceeds that of council terants.

The same considerations would apply in the case of married couples but the percentage of married couples dependent on State pensions only (even in the lowest income group) is so much smaller (12.9 per cent) that its effects do not obscure the increase in home ownership with increase in income.

Probably the most important finding is that these figures emphasise the association of low income with lack of assets: we have already shown that higher-income couples and persons are much more likely to own assets apart from their dwellings. They are also much more likely to own their dwellings.

16.3 Expenditure on housing

The relationship between income and expenditure on housing is not entirely straightforward, because help towards the cost of housing can be provided either by rebates or allowances from the local authority or by supplementary benefit payments. In the former case the cost of housing, as calculated from rents and rates actually paid, is lower and in the latter the total income is greater. Owner-occupiers may receive S.B. payments in respect of mortgage interest. Rent rebates are given only to council tenants, rent allowances only to private tenants, while rates rebates may be given to either and to owner-occupiers. The numbers in some income groups of heads with different tenures are too small for very

detailed analysis, but the extent to which rebates and allowances are received can be summarised as follows:—

Summary 16.3.1

Extent of receipt of rebates and allowances in different income groups.

(a) Married heads

Council tenants who receive rent rebates

Total	46.7
Income £1,499 or less	57.2
Income £1.500 or more	32.9

Private tenants who receive rent allowances

Total	23.6
Income £1,499 or less	33.0
Income £1,500 or more	11.7
atepayers who receive rates	rebates

Total 39.8

Income	£1,499	or	less	57.7
Income	£1,500	or	more	27.1

(b) Non-married heads

Council tenants who receive rent rebates

	%
Total	27.3
Income £749 or less	46.8
Income £750-£999	23.2
Income £1 000 or more	21.9

Private tenants who receive rent allowances

	%
Total	17.5
Income £999 or less	20.7
Income £1,000 or more	12.4

Table 16.3.1 Total annual expenditure on housing⁽¹⁾ by married couples where husband is head (by total net income)

	Total	Married couples' total net income from all sources				
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 or more	
Elderly couples WEIGHTED	(1,185)	(574)	(315)	(158)	(99)	
(unweighted figures)	(736) %	(372) %	(189) %	(96) %	(57) %	
Annual expenditure						
Less than £50	9.5	15.7	6.0	1.3		
£50 but less than £100	23.1	27.7	27.3	13.3	4.0	
£100 but less than £150	17.5	14.1	18.1	19.0	28.3	
£150 but less than £200	11.0	8.9	10.8	18.3	14.1	
£200 but less than £250	7.3	5.4	10.5	7.6	9.1	
£250 but less than £300	9.0	10.4	7.3	6.3	12.1	
£300 but less than £350	6.4	5.0	6.0	8.9	12.1	
£350 but less than £400	3.1	2.1	5.7	2.5	3.0	
£400 or more	4.4	2.3	3.2	12.0	9.1	
Lives rent-free	2.1	2.4	1.0	3.8	2.0	
Inadequate information	6.4	5.9	4.1	7.0	6.1	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ After deduction of rebates etc.

Table 16.3.2 Total annual expenditure on housing⁽¹⁾ by non-married heads of households (by total net income)

	Total	Non-married heads' total net income from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750 – £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 or more	
Non-married heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,520) (1,075) %	(315) (227)	(697) (500) %	(322) (226) %	(134) (87) %	
Annual expenditure				70	70	
Less than £50	13.7	27.3	13.9	5.6	3.0	
£50 but less than £100	18.9	22.5	19.2	17.7	9.0	
£100 but less than £150	14.6	9.8	14.1	14.3	28.3	
£150 but less than £200	7.0	4.8	8.0	8.4	5.2	
£200 but less than £250	8.9	3.5	13.0	5.6	11.9	
£250 but less than £300	10.0	4.8	13.3	9,3	6.7	
£300 but less than £350	7.5	4.4	7.5	12.4	6.0	
£350 but less than £400	3.3	1.6	1.4	7.8	8.2	
£400 or more	4.1	2.2	1.3	10.6	6.7	
Lives rent free	4.1	9.8	2.9	2.2	2.2	
nadequate information	7.8	9.2	5.3	6.2	12.7	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ After deduction of rebates etc.

Ratepayers who receive rates rebates

	%
Total	40.4
Income £749 or less	56.5
Income £750-£999	44.2
Income £1,000-£1,499	43.6
Income £1,500 and over	6.1

The decrease with increasing income in the percentage who receive rebates or allowances is very marked, but it must be remembered that some of the middle income groups will receive supplementary benefits which include an addition towards the cost of housing (we show elsewhere that 12 per cent of married couples and 31 per cent of non-married persons receive supplementary benefits).

Tables 16.3.1 and 16.3.2 show the actual annual expenditure on accommodation, ie after rebates and local authority rent allowances have been taken into account.

Although small in number, the highest income groups are of interest because no married couples and virtually none of the non-married persons in these groups receive supplementary benefits. Additionally, none receive rent rebates or allowances and only about five per cent receive rates rebates. The next highest income groups both include appreciable proportions receiving either rent rebates or allowances and/or rates rebates and, in the case of non-married persons but not of married couples, an appreciable proportion receiving supplementary benefits.

All except the top income groups, therefore, are receiving some assistance towards the cost of housing.

This assistance partly, but not wholly, accounts for the increase in housing costs with increasing income.

What must cause concern are the comparatively high percentages of lower income groups who have high expenditures, particularly among non-married heads: about one in twelve non-married heads with incomes of less than £750 are spending £300 or more a year on housing.

16.4 Physical amenities of dwelling

The following tables show the extent to which certain selected amenities are found in the homes of people of different income levels.

The increase in possession of amenities with increasing income is, in general, much more marked in the case of non-married heads than of married couples. This is probably a consequence of the fact that the lowest income level of married couples is much higher than that of non-married persons (only 2.5 per cent of couples have incomes of less than £1,000 a year, whereas 68.2 per cent of non-married heads do so). If we compare married couples with incomes of £2,000 a year or more with non-married deads with £1,500 a year or more with non-married deads with £1,500 a year or more it can be seen that the level of possession of amenities is much the same in both groups. However, the first group accounts for 21.7 per cent of all married couples, the latter for only 8.8 per cent of all non-married persons.

Non-married women heads are a little more likely than men to possess each amenity, the difference being most marked in the case of telephones (40.0 per cent of nonmarried women, compared with 32.7 per cent of men).

Table 16.4.1 Amenities possessed by elderly couples where husband is head (by total net income)

	Total	Married couples' total net income from all sources				
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 or more	
Elderly married couples						
WEIGHTED	(1,185)	(574)	(315)	(158)	(99)	
(unweighted figures)	(736)	(372)	(189)	(96)	(57)	
(unweighted ligares)	%	%	%	%	%	
Bathroom		88.0	87.9	92.4	97.0	
Bathroom, not shared	89.5			1.3	1.0	
Bathroom, shared	2.0	1.4	3.5	6.3	2.0	
None	8.4	10.6	8.6	6.3	2.0	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Lavatory						
Both inside and out	14.3	14.1	13.7	20.3	4.0	
Inside only	74.9	70.4	77.1	72.8	96.0	
Outside only	10.9	15.5	9.2	7.0	-	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
H-4 mater cumply						
Hot water supply	5.1	6.3	5.0	2.5	2.0	
None						
Telephone				22.2	87.9	
Yes	45.3	30.8	43.2	72.2	67.9	

Table 16.4.2 Amenities possessed by non-married heads (by total income)

	Total	Non-married heads' total net income from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 & over	
Non-married heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,520) (1,075) %	(315) (227) %	(697) (500) %	(322) (226) %	(134) (87) %	
Bathroom	82.8	75,6	82.1	87.0	91.8	
Bathroom, not shared		4.1	5.0	5.9	5.2	
Bathroom, shared	5.0		12.9	7.1	3.0	
None	12.2	20.3	12.9	7.1	5.0	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Lavatory						
Both inside and outside	11.6	8.9	13.9	9.3	11.9	
Inside only	75.2	71.1	70.9	83.2	85.8	
Outside only	13.2	20.0	15.2	7.5	2.2	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Hot water supply None	10.5	18.1	10.0	7.1	2.2	
Telephone Yes	38.4	29.2	27.7	48.4	83.6	

16.5 Household equipment

We show in detail the extent to which 'prompted' items of household equipment are owned. We do this because the deprivation of the lower income groups is more apparent when seen as a whole.

Nearly all these items can be regarded as highly desirable, either to help people, many of whom are infirm, to carry out household duties, or to enable them to keep in contact with events outside the home. Record players and radiograms are perhaps less essential, but are undoubtedly a source of pleasure.

The higher level of ownership of the last-named among the higher-income groups may be a reflection of their personal tastes.

For virtually every item the level of ownership is lower among non-married persons than among married couples and this is obviously a consequence of their lower income levels, as the level of ownership of most items among their highest income group approaches that among married couples.

Among non-married men the level of ownership of most items is lower than that of non-married women.

Table 16.5.1 Ownership of household equipment by clderly married couples where husband is head (by total net income)

	Total(1)	Married couples' total net income from all sources				
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 &	
Elderly married couples						
WEIGHTED	(1,185)	(574)	(315)	(158)	(00)	
(unweighted figures)	(736)	(372)	(189)	(96)	(99) (57)	
, , ,	%	%	%	%	%	
Equipment		70	70	70	700	
Vacuum cleaner	94.3	90.9	96.8	96.8	100.0	
Non-electric sweeper	68,9	69.3	67.3	67.1	67.7	
Washing machine	66.9	62.0	68,6	75.3	79.8	
Spin/tumble drier	54.7	51.7	60.3	47.5	58.6	
Electric iron	97.7	96.5	98.7	98.1	100.0	
Refrigerator	84.7	78.0	87.0	93.7	97.0	
Record player	31.5	20.6	34.6	45.6	61.6	
Portable radio	76.1	69.0	79.4	81.6	98.0	
Non-portable radio	16.6	18.1	10.2	17.7	29.3	
Portable TV	6.5	5.1	6.7	6.3	17.2	
Non-portable TV	94.0	93.4	95.2	93.7	92.9	
Radiogram	20.8	16.2	20.0	27.8	30.3	

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are included in the total.

Table 16.5.2 Ownership of household equipment by elderly non-married heads (by total net income

	Total ⁽¹⁾	Non-married heads' total net income from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 &	
Non-married heads WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,520) (1,075)	(315) (227)	(697) (500)	(322) (226)	(134) (87)	
Equipment	%	%	%	%	%	
Vacuum cleaner	82.2	80,6	77.8	87.6	94.0	
Non-electric sweeper	69.9	67.6	69.6	68.0	82.8	
Washing machine	42.2	40.6	42.8	41.3	44.0	
Spin/tumble drier	37.3	37.1	33.1	37.0	57.5	
Electric iron	90.9	89.5	89.0	93.5	97.8	
Refrigerator	67.0	57.1	62.6	76.7	88.8	
Record player	18.0	13.7	12.5	24.5	39.6	
Portable radio	68.2	62.2	67.1	72.0	82.1	
Non-portable radio	22.0	24.8	22.8	19.3	18.7	
Portable TV	4.1	4.8	2.7	4.7	10.4	
Non-portable TV	85.3	79.4	85.9	88.8	88.1	
Radiogram	11.3	8.9	9.5	13.4	22.4	
None of these	0.3	1.0	0.3	_		

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are included in the total.

16.6 Car ownership

The percentages who have at least one car in the household are as follows:

	%		%
	all 41.4	Non-married heads: al	1 18.1
Income: £1,499 or less		Income: £749 or less	12,7
£1,500-£1,999		£750-£999	12.5
£2,000-£2,999		£1,000-£1,499	17.1
£3,000 or mor	e 87.9	£1,500 or more	59.0

Among non-married heads 31.8 per cent of men, compared with 14.3 per cent of women, have a car.

Car ownership has a stronger association with income than any other amenity except the telephone. In these times, apart from its usefulness a car may be a valuable asset, and this further emphasis the comparative lack of assets amongst the lowest income groups of elderly persons.

(It is not only among elderly householders that possession of household amenities and equipment has been found to be strongly income-related. For example, Families and their needs (HMSO 1973) shows the same picture, particularly in the case of two-parent families.)

16.7 Heating of elderly persons' bedrooms

We have chosen elderly persons' bedrooms for the purpose of comparing heating arrangements in different income groups. We have done so because nearly all living rooms are heated and the heating of passages,

Table 16.7.1 Forms of heating in bedrooms used by elderly persons in households of elderly married couples where husband is head (by total net income)

	Total	Married couples' total net income from all sources					
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 & over		
Bedrooms used by elderly							
WEIGHTED	(1,239)	(600)	(331)	(166)	(102)		
(unweighted figures)	(769)	(389)	(198)	(101)	(58)		
(univergittee rigares)	%	%	%	%	%		
Form of heating							
Solid fuel fire	1.5	2.0	1.8	0.6	_		
Oil stove	2.8	5.0	0.9	1.2	_		
Gas fire	4.0	4.2	4.8	3.0	_		
Electric fire	30.1	30.7	36.3	28.9	15.7		
Storage heater	5.0	3.3	3.3	9.0	13.7		
Central heating	24.4	15.7	20.8	33.1	66.7		
Other heating	2.1	2.2	3.0	_	2.0		
None	30.2	36.0	26.9	26.5	7.8		

Table 16.7.2 Forms of heating in bedrooms used by elderly persons in households with an elderly non-married head (by total net income)

	Total	Non-married heads' total net income from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 & over	
Bedrooms used by elderly						
WEIGHTED	(1,591)	(332)	(726)	(332)	(147)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,124)	(239)	(521)	(233)	(95)	
(%	%	%	%	%	
Form of heating						
Solid fuel fire	3.3	3.3	4.8	1.8	0.7	
Oil stove	3.3	6.3	2.5	3.9	_	
Gas fire	6.5	4.2	6.1	9.3	5.4	
Electric fire	33.5	38.3	32.0	32.2	33.3	
Storage heater	4.8	3.6	4.4	6.0	6.8	
Central heating	21.5	12.3	19.4	24.4	32.7	
Other heating	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.3	1.4	
None	30.2	34.0	32.5	24.7	15.6	

lavatories and bathrooms may be the responsibility of others in cases where these are shared.

The above tables are based on all bedrooms used by elderly people (very few households have more than one).

The association of no heating with lower income is so marked as to need no comment. It is worth noting that the use of central heating is associated with higher income.

16.8 Warmth

So far we have been dealing with households. In this and the following paragraphs we deal with individuals, but because a married couple's income is treated as one entity we continue to show married and non-married persons separately.

It is reasonable to assume that the heating of the

dwelling will usually be the financial responsibility of the head of the household. In considering the following figures it should therefore be borne in mind that in 99 per cent of married couples the husband is the head of household, whereas only 82 per cent of non-married persons are heads.

The percentage of married people who are not warm enough in each place decreases steadily with increasing income, while among non-married people there is an increase between the lowest income group and the next, followed by a decrease. This apparent inconsistency can be explained by the fact that less than half the non-married persons in the lowest income group live alone, compared with about two-thirds of those with higher incomes. Only 65 per cent are heads of households, compared with 85 per cent of those with higher incomes. The numbers are too small for detailed analysis, but it can be said that, when asked why they are not warm enough in each place, the percentages giving answers implying financial difficulty (eg can't afford fuel, not

Table 16.8.1 Married persons who are not warm enough all the time in bed, in the living room, in the kitchen, out of doors (by total net income)

	Total ⁽¹⁾	Total net income of couple from all sources					
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000 – £2,999	£3,000 or more		
Married persons WEIGHTED	(2,023)	(1.049)	(519)	(236)	(150)		
(unweighted figures)	(1,291)	(701)	(321)	(144)	(85)		
	%	%	%	%	%		
Not warm all the time:							
In bed	6.4	9.3	4.6	3.4	_		
In living room	7.8	10.1	6.9	5.5	1.3		
In kitchen	11.6	13.9	12.3	8.1	4.0		
Out of doors	6.7	8.7	5.4	3.4	2.0		

Table 16.8.2 Non-married persons who are not warm enough all the time in bed, in the living room, in the kitchen, out of doors (by total net income)

	Total ⁽¹⁾	Total net income from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750- £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 or more	
Non-married persons WEIGHTED	(1,846)	(483)	(777)	(366)	(162)	
(unweighted figures)	(1,331)	(359)	(562)	(263)	(106)	
	%	%	%	%	%	
Not warm all the time:						
In bed	8.3	8.1	9.9	7.9	3.1	
In living room	8.8	7.0	11.5	7.7	2.5	
In kitchen	11.8	8.0	16,6	9.0	6.8	
Out of doors	7.9	7.2	9.4	4.6	9.3	

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are not shown separately but are included in the total.

enough bedclothes) show the same tendency as that already described.

Answers to the question 'Does the cost of keeping warm mean you have to go without other things?' also follow the same pattern. Among married people the percentage who say they have to go without falls steadily from 19 per cent of all those with incomes of £1,900 or more. Among non-married people it rises from nine per cent of those with incomes of £749 or less to 16 per cent of those with 1:500 -2099 and then falls to five per cent of those with £1,500 or more.

16.9 Mobility

'Mobility' here, as elsewhere, relates to people's permanent condition.

The association of impaired mobility with lower income is apparent. We do not show men and women separately because the numbers in some groups are too small, but the same trend occurs among men and women, married and single. We have shown elsewhere that low incomes are more likely to be found among the very old, so that the lower mobility of people with lower incomes may be accounted for partly but not entirely by their higher average age.

Table 16.9.1 Mobility of elderly married persons (by total net income of couple)

	Total(1)	Total net income of couple from all sources				
		£1,499 or less	£1,500- £1,999	£2,000- £2,999	£3,000 & over	
Married persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(2,023) (1,291)	(1,049) (701)	(519) (321) %	(236) (144) %	(150) (85) %	
Mobility						
Bedfast permanently	0.1	_	_	0.4	0.7	
Housebound permanently	3.3	4.1	2.5	3.8	1.3	
Goes out with assistance	5.4	6.1	5.6	3.8	1.3	
Goes out on own	91.2	89.8	91.9	91.9	96.7	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are not shown separately but are included in the total.

Table 16.9.2 Mobility of elderly non-married persons (by total net income)

	Total ⁽¹⁾	Total net income of person from all sources				
		£749 or less	£750 – £999	£1,000- £1,499	£1,500 & over	
Non-married persons WEIGHTED (unweighted figures)	(1,846) (1,331)	(483) (359) %	(777) (562) %	(366) (263) %	(162) (106) %	
Mobility						
Bedfast permanently	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.5	_	
Housebound permanently	5.2	5,4	5.1	6.0	2.5	
Goes out with assistance	10.0	12.2	9.7	7.7	6.2	
Goes out on own	84.3	81.6	84.8	85.8	91.3	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

⁽¹⁾ Those who did not state their income are not shown separately but are included in the total.

16.10 Things particularly disliked and enjoyed about life at present

We have provided much evidence of the material disadvantages suffered by elderly people in the lower income groups. In order to find out whether these groups are disadvantaged in more intangible ways we have analysed by income group the answers to the questions 'what, if anything, do you particularly dislike about your own life at present?' 'And what do you particularly enjo?'

Differences between the percentages in income groups who have individual dislikes and enjoyments are not always very great, but taken overall they provide a clear indication. In the following summary we show, separately for married and non-married people, all particular dislikes and enjoyments where there is a steady association, either positive or negative, with income level.

Married people: particular dislikes

(The percentage having *no* particular dislikes does not vary greatly from the average (55 per cent) in any group).

Own ill health: 17 per cent in lowest income group, seven per cent in highest; ill-health of other member of household: five and one per cent respectively.

Inability to do certain things: six and 11 per cent respectively.

State of society in general: four and nine per cent respectively.

Married people: particular enjoyments

(The percentage having *no* particular enjoyments falls from ten per cent in the lowest income group to three per cent in the highest).

'Just happy, enjoy life' (14 per cent in lowest income group, 19 per cent in highest).

Freedom of retirement (12 and 18 per cent respectively). Reading (four and eight per cent respectively). Good health (seven and 10 per cent respectively). Eating, drinking, smoking (six and three per cent respectively).

Non-married people: particular dislikes

(The percentage having *no* particular dislikes falls from 50 per cent in the lowest income group to 43 per cent in the highest).

Financial difficulties (five per cent in lowest income group, two per cent in highest).

Own ill-health (17 per cent and 12 per cent respectively).

Loss of partner (nine and 17 per cent respectively). Loneliness (eight and 17 per cent respectively). Inability to do certain things (three and seven per cent respectively).

Non-married people: particular enjoyments

(The percentage having *no* particular enjoyments does not differ greatly from the average (nine per cent) in any income group).

Family, friends (30 per cent in lowest income group, 38 per cent in highest).

Independence (three and eight per cent respectively). Indoor hobbies (25 and 29 per cent respectively). Outdoor hobbies (15 and 24 per cent respectively). Social activities (12 and 18 per cent respectively). Holidays (six and nine per cent respectively).

Eating, drinking, smoking (five and two per cent respectively).

The following conclusions appear legitimate.

The main effect of income differences appears to be on the extent to which elderly people are able to enjoy the positive aspects of life. Apart from ill-health, which is much more a source of complaint in the lowest income group, people with higher incomes are at least as likely to find things to dislike in their lives.

On the other hand, those in the higher income groups are more likely to find things to enjoy.

This is a not unexpected finding, because many of the things particularly disliked are such as affect many elderly people, whatever their income (such as changes in society or loss of a partner). Many of the particular enjowments (such as holidays and hobbies) cost money.

16.11 Suggestions for things to be done to help elderly people

Comparisons between the suggestions made by people of different income levels are a little obscured by the fact that, among non-married people, those in the lowest income group are less likely to make any suggestions at all. This group is older on average and includes a much higher percentage of women (86 per cent compared with 61 per cent of the highest group). Among married people this does not apply. Experience has shown that elderly women are likely to be particularly inarticulate when asked an open question of this kind on almost any topic.

Financial suggestions predominate in all groups, but, contrary to what might have been expected, few individual suggestions follow astrict association with income and the pattern is not the same for married as for non-married. The latter is probably a consequence of the much lower income levels of non-married people.

Among married people the percentage who would like increased old age pensions falls from 11 per cent among those with incomes less than £1,500 to three per cent among those with £3,000 or more, while the percentage asking that pensions should not be taxed rises from two per cent in the lowest group to ten per cent in the next group and then falls to seven per cent in the highest group. Among non-married people the percentage wanting higher pensions is almost constant at around seven per cent, while the percentage wanting no tax on pensions rises from virtually none among those with incomes under £750 to eight per cent among those with £1,500 or more. Probably these differences reflect the varying effects of taxation on married and non-married people at different income levels.

Apart from those already mentioned, the only suggestions, financial or otherwise, which appear to have a direct association with income are both found among non-married people. They are: help with fuel bills (10 per cent among the lowest income group, falling to five per cent in the highest); provision of more suitable housing (rising from four to ten per cent).

Very few elderly people's incomes approach the level of those of the working population (as we have shown elsewhere). It is therefore not surprising that even in the highest income groups an appreciable proportion are concerned about finance.

Appendix A

Reliability of the figures

1 Confidence limits

All surveys based on samples of populations are subject to sampling errors: in other words the true value of an estimate may differ from that given in the survey. Therefore it is necessary to know how much confidence can be placed in individual percentages, especially if important conclusions are to be drawn or if some survey findings are to be used to derive national estimates.

The sample used for this survey was a stratified multistage random sample, where the sampling fraction for households containing persons aged 65-74 but none aged 75 and over was half that for households containing persons aged 75 and over.

Were the sample a straightforward stratified multistage random sample, in accordance with common practice, the standard errors could be assumed to be 11/2 times those calculated from the formula

$$\sqrt{\frac{pq^{(1)}}{N}}$$

where p = percentage possessing a given characteristic q = 100 - pN = number of interviews in group

However, the use of different sampling fractions can be shown to reduce the effectiveness of a given sample

(1) Stuart, Applied Statistics XII No 2 page 89.

size(2). In the present case the effectiveness of the whole sample is equivalent to that of a sample of 0.942 times its size. In calculating standard errors using the above formula N must be taken as 0.942 times the unweighted totals (1,975 households, 2,622 persons).

The proportion weighted differs in different sub-groups. For example, for those aged 75 and over the proportion weighted is so small as to be negligible, while for those aged 65-74 virtually all have been doubled. Therefore, when considering age groups as entities it is not necessary to apply the corrective factor. The proportion weighted in other sub-groups varies and cannot always be easily calculated. For practical purposes the same factor (0.942) can be used, but in cases where it is essential that limits of error be firmly established, more sophisticated techniques should be employed, which are beyond the scope of this note.

The following table takes the above consideration into account. It shows at a glance the probable limits of error of different percentages in sample groups most frequently used in the tables.

The chances are 95 in 100 that the true value of the estimate will not differ from the survey figure by more than plus or minus the figure shown in the table.

(2) Social Survey Division Methodological Paper No 132.

Table A.1.1 Standard errors of estimates for the main sub-groups, allowing for sample design

Sample group	Unweighted	Percen									
base	5 95	10 90	15 85	20 80	25 75	30 70	35 65	40 60	45 55	50 50	
	1,975	1.5	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.
All households		1.3	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.
All persons	2,622	2.1	2.9	3.5	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.
Men: all	994	2.7	3.8	4.5	5.0	5.4	5.8	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.
65-74	565	3.4	4,6	5.5	6.2	6.7	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.7	7
75-84	375		12.2	14.6	16.3	17.7	18.7	19.5	20.0	20.3	20
85 and over	54	8.9	2.3	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.8	3
Women: all	1,628	1.7	3.2	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.3	5
65-74	789	2.3	3.4	4.1	4.6	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.7	5
75-84	688	2.5		8.7	9.8	10.6	11.2	11.6	12.0	12.1	12
85 and over	151	5.3	7.3		4.3	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.4	5
Living alone	809	2.4	3.3	3.9	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4
Married couples	1,099	2.0	2.8		13.7	14.8	15.6	16.3	16.7	17.0	17
Siblings only	82	7.4	10.2	12.2 5.7	6,4	6.9	7.3	7.6	7.8	7.9	7
Others - one elderly	379	3.5	4.8		7.8	8.4	8.9	9.3	9,5	9.7	9
Others - 2 + elderly	253	4.2	5.8	6.9	3.4	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.3	4
Married	1,297	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.4	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.7	4
Widowed	1,069	2.1	2.8	3.4	8.6	9.3	9.8	10.2	10.5	10.7	10
Single	208	4.7	6.4	7.7		19.3	20.4	21.3	21.9	22.2	22
Divorced etc	48	9.7	13.4	15.9	17.8	19.3	20.4	21.0			

(This is a fairly rigorous test: the chances are two out of three that the true value will not differ from the surcey figure by more than plus or minus HALF the figure shown in the table. In such cases, if the importance of the estimate justifies it, other tests can be applied to the unweighted totals.)

The table can also be used as rough guide for groups whose base figures do not differ greatly from those shown in the table.

A.2 Other tests

There are instances where the differences between individual percentages are not great enough to be separately significant but they form a definite pattern. There are a number of tests of the significance of such patterns which are described in statistical text books. They are known as non-parametric tests. A simple example is as follows:

Ownership of each of five household amenities increases steadily with increase of income in each of 4 income groups, ie the rank orders of level of ownership (1 is lowest level, 4 highest).

1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4
1	2	3	4

The possible number of orders in each line is 4!, ie 24, and, theoretically, each line is independent of each other line, so the total number of arrangements possible (taken over all lines and columns) is 24°, ie 7,962,624. It is therefore most unlikely that this particular sequence arose by chance. Where the lines are not independent (eg where a high percentage with a low income automatically ensures a low percentage with a high income, different tests must be used.

A.3 Obtaining national estimates

The simplest way to estimate how many elderly people are represented by a sample estimate is to use as a basis the figure of 6½ million elderly people in England and apply the sample percentage to that figure, making allowance for sampling errors as shown in the preceding table. For example the survey gives a figure of 29.6 per cent of elderly persons living alone.

From the table of standard errors the 95 per cent confidence interval is 29.6 ± 5 per cent and these percentages can then be applied to the figure of $6\frac{1}{2}$ million.

It can therefore be said that the chances are 95 in 100 that the number of elderly people living alone in England lies between 1,95,000 – 325,000 and 1,952,000 + 325,000, ie, in round figures, between 1,600,000 and 2,250,000, with the further 2 chances in 3 that it lies between 1,760,000 and 2,100,000.

Appendix B

Technical sampling note by Brian Scammel, Sampling Branch

B.1 Sample requirements

The survey required a sample of households in England containing persons aged 65 and over. Non-private households and institutions were excluded. This sample of households would also be representative of elderly persons living in private households.

Analyses from a pilot survey had shown that households with persons 75 years and over represented the priority group in terms of apparent need, and they were therefore to be over-sampled. Numbers had to be sufficient also to allow some analyses for persons aged 85 and over.

B.2 Locating the sample

There was no list of the target population which was directly suitable for sampling purposes. Available lists were either not comprehensive or could not be adequately clustered. The population was therefore located by writing to a large number of addresses, and asking the occupant for information which would permit the identification of households eligible for interview.

The survey objectives required an initial sample of 11,500 addresses. Random variation involved in sampling addresses from the Electoral Register increased this to 11,849.

B.3 Sample design

Addresses were clustered within a stratified random sample of 90 parliamentary constituencies. Such a design avoids the increase in sampling error which would have resulted from a higher concentration but at the same time keeps fieldwork costs to a reasonable level.

Stratification

- (i) Proportion of elderly
 - Areas with an exceptionally high proportion of old people (referred to in this report as retirement areas) were of special interest. Constituencies where, at the 1971 Census, persons aged 65 or over comprised more than 17 per cent of the population were included as a separate stratum.
- (ii) Constituencies not included above were classified according to the Registrar General's Standard Regions. Since few constituencies remained in the

South West after the separation of retirement areas, they were combined in a stratum with those in the South East. East Midlands and East Anglia were also combined.

Sample constituencies were allocated between regions in proportion to mid-1974 estimates of population and were distributed as follows:—

Region		Number of areas allocated	Number selected
North	٠.	5.96	6
Yorkshire & Humberside	•	9.02	9
North West	•	11.85	12
East Midlands and East Anglia	•	10.53	11
West Midlands	*	10.04	10
Outer London		8.41	8
Inner London		5.32	5
South East and South West	•	20.76	21
'Retirement areas'		8.11	8
England		90	90

- * excludes 'retirement areas'.
- (iii) Social class was thought likely to be an important characteristic of old people having difficulty with basic tasks. The only data available for each constituency that could be used to approximate this concept were the Census tabulations by socioeconomic group. Constituencies were therefore ranked according to the percentage of heads of household in groups one, two, three, four, five and 13.
 - (iv) Finally, constituencies were noted according to the number of electors per acre.

B.4 Postal procedures

The Occupier' of each selected address was asked to fill in a postal questionnaire giving the names, dates of birth, sex and marital status of everyone living there. Reminders were sent to those who had not responded after a fortnight, and again to those who had still not replied after four weeks.

B.5 Postal response rates

		Per
		cent
Occupiers who phoned or wrote		
refusing to take part	104	0.9
Empty, demolished and		
institutional addresses	273	2.3
Addresses identified as containing		
persons aged 65 or more	3,167	26.7
Other addresses returning forms	6,723	56.7
Non-responders	1,582	13.4
Number of addresses contacted	11,849	100.0

83 per cent of addresses returned usable questionnaires. Of the 3,167 eligible addresses

- 1,901 contained persons aged 65 or over, but no-one aged 75 or over
- 1,013 contained persons aged 75 or over, but no-one aged 85 or over
 - 253 contained persons aged 85 and over.

B.6 Selection of interview sample

Included in the set interview sample were all addresses with persons aged 75 or more and half the addresses which contained people aged 65-74, but no-one 75 or over. In addition interviews were sought at half the addresses from which no postal questionnaire or definite refusal had been refused. 2,215 eligible responding addresses and 780 who had not replied gave a total set sample of 2,995.

This set sample was of addresses which contained elderly people at the time the occupier filled in the postal form. The following rules ensured that the interviews, conducted up to four months after the initial contact, were with a sample that was representative of the households that were eligible at this later point in time.

- (i) If any of the elderly persons listed on the postal form were still living at the address all eligible households would be interviewed, including any persons aged 65 or over, who had moved into the address since the postal.
- (ii) If all the listed elderly had moved away for more than one month, no-one was interviewed at that address. The moves were however followed. The interviewer established whether any elderly person living at the new address had been living there at the time of the postal, if so, the address would already have had a chance of selection and no interview was conducted. Otherwise all eligible households were interviewed.

(iii) Proxy interviews were carried out on behalf of people who were away for less than one month but who were not expected to return before the end of the interviewing period and on behalf of those too infirm to be interviewed personally.

per

18.0

61 55.0

30 27.0

B.7 Interviewer response rates

Addresses responding to the postal

		cent
Addresses identified by the postal		
sift as containing persons 65		
and over	2,215	
ineligible: form delivered to wrong		
address	13	
elderly people moved		
before postal	5	
empty or demolished	12	
Households established as containing		
eligible persons listed on postal		
form	2,207	100
now ineligible: deceased	45	
: moved permanently		
to institution	19	3.0
: movers rule (para		
5.2)	3	
eligible households	2,140	97.0
persons aged 65 and over	2,858	100
interviews	2,561	89.6
refusals	241	8.4
non-contacts	54	2.0
Addresses not responding to postal		
Set address	780	100.0
ineligible: empty or demolished	74	9.5
: no elderly person	584	74.9
excluded because no person 75+	31	74.9
eligible households	91	
persons aged 65 and over		100.0
persons aged on and over	111	100.0

non-contact B.8 Weighting

interviewe

refusals

Addresses in the interview sample were selected with different probabilities which depended on whether or not they had returned a postal questionnaire and whether or not they contained persons aged 75 or over. The data from these groups of addresses were therefore weighted inversely to these probabilities of selection before estimates were made for the elderly population as a whole.

Appendix C

The questionnaires

POSTAL RESPONDENTS AND POSTAL NON-RESPONDENTS	If household as described by informant consis	or married couple:		CHECK that they do in fact commise a househo
	Serial number			_
HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION SHEET - POSTAL RESPONDENTS		_	Area	Address
HEET - POS				
COMPOSITION S				
HOUSEHOLD				

Household Date of first contact Data of last contact Interviewed at: original address X; new address Y ESTABLISH HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION ASK ANY RESPONSIBLE ADMIT Interviewer's number Interviewer's name Area name 1D78

			-,-	_						
-	us Not wor- king	S	2	25	s	s	2	s	s	25
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	Employment status F/T N F/T P/T Unemp ed ki	ю	ю	м	ы	ю	м	ъ	ю	ю
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100	F/T	-		-	-		~	-		-
oute of the college	Sex Marital status M F M W S D/S	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
,	S	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	٥	9
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	OFF									
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	er-Ring on H/W	-	1	-		1		-	1	-
	on o	_	2	12	4	S	9	7	89	6

below any person(s) 65 and over who have mo 1 Oct 1975 who intend(s) to stay at least a 1
person(s) 65 and who intend(s) to

S	s	2	ffice use
3 4	3 4	3 4	Offi
2	2	2	If more than one elderly person and their relationship is not clear from above, DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP
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7	7	7	ip is
9	9	9	nsh
S	ıs	ın	tio
4	4	4	rela
12 4 5 6 7	12 4 5 6	12 4 5 6	i.
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			and I b
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			The
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			e 1de
			SCR
			an c
1	1	1	If more than one elderly person ar from above, DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP
=	12	13	lf mc from

IF DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD Ring X CLOSE INTERVIEW	If nerson(s) named on address list as 65+ missing.
DIFFER	person
H	1 €

Age	CLOSE INTERVIEW	DEBSON STILL AT		Take proxy if po		Record new addre
Sex						
۳.	٦,	4 F	**	S		9
	Dred	Gone to other institution nermanently	Left before 1st October 1975 4	In hospital or away for less than one month 5	Gone to live in another household where	intends to stay more than one month 6

INTERVIEW IN USUAL WAY. RING PERSON NOS OF ALL ELDERLY PERSONS INTERVIEWED 1F NO INTERVIEW(S) OBTAINED, FILL IN NON-RESPONSE SHEET

ss overleaf

ODRESS ssible

NLESS DERLY

find reason and record below.

is of other than single person d by our STANDARD DEFINITION and record: All same household 1 Some different 2 IF CODE 2 AMEND HOUSEHOLD BOX to show only elderly person(s)' household. USE ANOTHER SHEET if necessary. Remember that one LODGER is a one-person household. If more than one household with elderly persons, complete Household Sheet, Household Questionnaire and Individual Questionnaire(s) for each.

Record below whether proxy interview(s) have been taken.

Household questions (WHITE) answered by:

Proxy (person no. or specify) 2
Proxy (person no. or specify)

Elderly person no Elderly person only
Filderly person helped by (specify) Individual questions (BLUE) answered by:

. State nature of help given by proxy.

Record new address. Return for re-allocation if necessary. POSTAL RESPONDENTS MHO HAVE MOVED ONLY (Code 6)

A. Are there any other households at this new

.... Yes 1 Ask (b)
No 2 INTERVIEW Yes 1 Ask (a) No 2 Ask (a) a) Do any of the households contain persons aged 65 and over apart from the mover-in? address?

b) Did any of the person(s) aged 65 and over live Yes 1 CLOSE INTERVIEW here on 1st October 1975?

	Camin 1 number
- POSTAL NON-RESPONDENTS	
POSTAL	
SHEET -	
SITION	
HOUSEHOLD	

Interviewer's name	Interviewer's number	Household	COMPANIES AND COMPOSTATION
nane	number		man di nond

			_	_	_			,			_
	status	Not wor- king	25	s	20	2	2	ro.	5	2	
	ent	F/T ed	4	44	4	4	4	4	47	47	4
	Employment status	F/T P/T Unemp ed	ю	ы	м	m	65	65	2	м	1
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ontac		F/T	-		-		-	-	-		-
Date of last contact	Sex Marital status	N S D/S	_	_	_		7		Ī.		T.
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-	₹ ¥		4	4	4		43	4	4	4	4
	Se	E.	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2	1 2
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	Age	USE b'day M F									
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ASK ANY RESPONSIBLE ADULT	Relationship		нон								
RESP			_			_					_
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ASK	Per-	0.0	-	2	23	4	2	9	7	00	6

Record below any person(s) 65 and over who have moved in as temporary visitor(s) since 1st Oct 1975 who intend(s) to stay at least a month in all

=	п		1 2	4	2	9	7		2	2	4	s.
12	1		1 2	44	ın	9	7		2	2	4	2
13	1		1 2	4	ıs	9	7	-	2	ы	4	2

PRIOR If any persons 75 and over, INTERVIEW HOUSEHOLD

-ITY If any persons 65 and over, and <u>serial no is even</u>, INTERVIEW HOUSEHOLD

All others - CLOSE INTERVIEW

If more than one elderly person and their relationship is not clear from above, DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP

OFFICE USE

* INTERVIEW IN USUAL WAY

RING PERSON NOS OF ELDERLY PERSONS INTERVIEWED
IF NO INTERVIEW(s) OBTAINED, FILL IN NON-RESPONSE SHEET

POSTAL RESPONDENTS AND POSTAL NON-RESPONDENTS

If household as described by informant consists of other than single person or married couple:

Moder that they do in fact comprise a household by our STAMBAND DEFINITION mad record: All same household

Some different 2

IF CODE 2 AMEN MOUSEMOLD BOX to show only elderly person(s)' household. USE AMONTHER SMET If necessary. Memember that one LUDGRR is a one-person household. There than one necessary description that elderly persons, complete Household Sheet, blossehold Questionmaire and Individual Questionmaire of For each.

Record below whether proxy interview(s) have been taken.

		r specify)	
Household questions (WHITE) answered by:	Elderly person(s) only	Brown (sperson(s) neighed by (person no. or specify)	Froxy (person no. or specify)

perso	
Elderly perso	177
Elde	
Individual questions (BLUE) answered by:	Elderly person only person only Property Person only Probability State of Person helped by (specify) 2 PERSON (specify) 7 7

on no

* State nature of help given by proxy.

POSTAL RESPONDENTS WHO HAVE MOVED ONLY (Code 6)
Record new address. Return for re-allocation if necessary.

a) Do any of the households contain persons aged 65 \dots Yes 1 Ask (b) and over apart from the mover-in?

b) Did any of the person(s) aged 65 and over live Yes 1 CLOSE INTERVIEW here on 1st October 1975?

	<u> </u>	Yes 1 go to Op	a 31	
7. Do you receive a rent allowine from the local authority? To you receive a rent authority? Yes 70 Wes much is this	(b) How long a period does this cover? weeks months	If no (C) Have you applied (C) Have you applied allowance? No (If no (C) Way have you not a palied for a rent allowance?	[60 TO Q9] TF ANY OLD PERSON IS A BOARDER ASK Q8 S, How march do you pay for your board and lodging?	(a) How many persons does this cover? (b) How long a period does this cover? wanks
1 ask (f) 2 ask (g)	9	1] Co to 2] (1) Co to (1) Co		
(c) For how many weeks of the year! (c) Did you receive a rest receive the receive a rest restriction with your last rest payment?	(f) (i) How much rebate was granted? (ii) How long a period did this cover?	(iii) Is the amount for received received to a serial repress or has been deducted. If no rebase After (ii) Hany you applied for a received rebase a received rebase.	If no (1) They have you not objust for a that?	85 OT 65
Д	2 2 2 3	1 2 5 5	9	707 1 msk (d)
Address Household	::	4. Do you rent from the Council or privately? Council or privately? Frivately. Frivately. Frivately. Frivately. Frivately. Frivately.	6. a) How much rent do you pay for Area (in- pay for Area (in- pay for Area (in- pay for Area (in- malath) and in a marind b) How long a period does this cover? months	IF RENTS PRIVATELY GO TO Q? IF PROM COUNCIL ASK (c)-(c) C) Do you have a rent holiday? Yes No
esponsible a	FI Z	1 ask 263 2 Go to 4 3 ask (a) 1 Go to 2 Q10	1 Go to Q3 2 ask (a) 4 (b)	
SLOPS LEMEN OF time taken for HOUSEMOLD (UNSTICES) HOUSEMOLD (UNSTICES) HOUSEMOLD QUISTICES - and of any responsible adult IT OUT UNIVERSE TREASUR IS AMOUNTED. A AND ON ALL OFFERS.	A. If 1001 as 6 or ouer, record whether jeint contently or tennory, and if joint, with when? Sola with person no Joint with person no Joint when the accommodation?	1 min 233	2. Is it comed curright or on mortgage of currint comes of currint curring cur	months

-2-

(c) All informments		definition) 111786 13. It there a separate cool; and the cool of
ALL INFORMANTS 11. Exclaints Type of accommondation for SOR SOR PROPERTION. (a) COUNTELL TRANST (code 1) at Q4 only) Old Sorple's first with warden 1 Old Sorple's first with warden 1 Old Sorple's first (cities) 2 Old Sorple's first (cities) 2 Other old people's first (cities) 3 Glesciba) 4		accommodation (describe) 4 First (gurpose bailt) 5 First (converted bouse) 6 Maisonetic (gurpose bailt) 7 Mosent in bouse 8 Mosent in bouse 9 Mose in bouse 10 Charle bouse 11 Charle bouse 10 Charle bouse 10 Charle bouse 10
(ii) is the rates pay— mark you mentioned this relate has been deducted. After 2 Q11 After 2 Q11 (4) Have you applied for a rates relate for this fillument year (6s. April 1919 - hanch (5) I year (6s. April 1919 - hanch (6) Have you applied for this fillument year (6s. April 1919 - hanch (6) Have you applied for this fillument year (6s. April 1919 - hanch (6) Have you applied for year, a general (6s. (6) Have you applied for year, a general (6s. (6) Have you applied for year, a pril 190 to (6) Have you hav	1 Jak (3) 1 If the paper of th	্যিত গুৰু
100 100	To ALL ELDERAY NE CONTROL OF CONTROL OT CONTROL OF CONTROL OT CONT	meets (b) hid you receive a nates with your its power? (c) Now much you the last rates where? (d) Her long a period did this ower! weeks

Question 20 (on opposite page) The following notes are for your guidance. ROOMS are rooms in use, as defined at 012. UNE means in use as present. Thus, a solid feat store which could be used but which could be used but	is not does not count. A portable appliance (4s, an oil Linvoy Michel (4s, an oil Linvoy Michel one roan to nother 1s on the recorded for beth. If more than 'b redroms one not a living roses or more than 'b redroms one not better I living roses and 4 bedroms in most frequent use than a recommendation on more than the notable of the	on the land in lightnesses is on the lowest floor, the wholes on an about on the lowest floor, the net have a made as a land of the land o	Tr hatteress and laustory are combined. Nather headings and red belt. If nore than one batteress code the one most frequently used by elderly.	
1 go to Q18 2 ask (i)	5 08 to 6 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	# KI M	N C 4	
11. Ask those with own water supply (ceel = 1 et q(s) Do you have a hot water supply (c. constant hot water from time, as or alsettic heater, etc) No	(3) Induct Hor WATE ALD (A) MACLIANIC AN WATE ALD (B) MACLIANIC AN WATE ALD (B) MACLIANIC AN OFFI (B) MACLIANI	(6) ASK ALL 18. Do you have: Marke gas Singericity Wetting the state of the stat	19. Ging do you use for cocking? Cocking? Else reversioner FROMFT Solid fast seversioner Other (specify)	
		1 ask (a) 2 ask (b)		
The builds brotzery on same brotzery on same brotzery on same brotzery on same column). (1) So many states as the same brotzers are same brotzery or same brot		16, bo you have water laid on? (fe. at last one tasp for gole use of household) No 2 ank 11 year (3) Warer is the most (4) Warer is the most definiting water?	Kitchen, sculley. Kitchen, sculley. Vard Elsewhere (apecify) If me (5) Three, do you obtain	(07.10 Q17(f))
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	16. Do you have water laid prof (for a less cone to prof (for a less cone to prof (for a less cone to however) and (for a less cone to however) (a) Were it the most drinking water?	itchen, scullery anding anding ilsewhere (specify) [50 TO 017] ere do you obtain	_

- 9
g
[62]

_			292242			174				
	7 7	E 47			1 ask a,b 2 go to 025		0 go to Q26 1 Q26 2 ask 3 (a)	9 40	1 ask (1) 2 go to 026	Person nos.
23. Which of the following have	you in the household? Vacuum cleaner Non-electric carpet Sweeper	E	Refrigerator CODE Record player ALL Separate radio; TRAT portable portable portable portable portable portable	No No	24, Is there a telephone for use of the household? Yes No (a) Is it actually inside (accommodation of the household)? Yes	(b) How many stairs is it (up or dawn) from: IF MORE Elderly person(s) THAN ONE, Enderly person(s) FARTHEST INTR. PARTHEST INT	23. Is there a car or van in the household? If yes, how may? None One The Company of the Company	one for use of a disabled person?	No	At yes (i) Who uses this car? Enter person no(s)
	Lava- tory(s)	2nd	> -10E45	n 00 01		0		1		1
	Lava- tory(lst	× × × × × ×	0 6 6	=	0				
	Bath		> 42640	r- 00 6	11	۰	0 - 0 0 4 0 9 5			m
	Land- ings	lse 2nd	> 0 0 0 0 0	r 00 6	=======================================	0	type)			
	in	lsc	× 12645	0 8 6	=	0	Ř : : : : :		11.	
	á	2nd	× 110040 0	L 8 6	ı	0	i di		f. f.	
	Halls, pass-	lst	0 55321 K	L 8 6	2	0	y re-	္ပါ	doc	
	Bedrooms. Ring codes below to show which are used by elderly	7	> = 0 m 4 m 0	r-00 or	=	0	None Gortzi Hany, None Gortzi Haring (any type) Gortzi Haring (any type) Storuga Haster Gas fife Gas fife Other (specify)	at 02	Inside dwelling	
	Bedrooms. Ring codes below to sh which are used by elderly	6	> = 0 m 4 m @	0 8 9	=	0	ting, ne ntral cctri orage s fir lid fi listor her (,	9 20	g, cla	away (in feet)nd stairs must solid
	Bedrooms. codes belo which are elderly	2	A 4444 A	r 8 6	=	0	hea Co So So Of	les 1	lling sillin	must
	Bedrooms codes be which ar	,,	0 SEBSH K	L 8 6	Ħ	0	E E I	00	de de	(in) airs
		2nd	0 543214	C 80 6	=======================================	0	t form CODE ALL THAT APPLY	619	side	d st
S	Living- rooms	lst	6 54321 4	2 8 6	=	0	3	3 at	1 00 00	a m
SEE OPPOSITE PAGE FOR INSTRUCTIONS	20. What form(s) of hearing T do you use at present in:		DMA - no such room STO Glateve TO Ollactore To Gas fire Gas fire Socrate fleating Contral heating:		Other form of heating 11 (describe)	No heating	21. Apart from your cooking atoms, what form of heating, if any, do you have in the kitchen? One Control heating control heating and the kitchen? All the Cooking heater while the cooking heater while the cooking heater with the cooking heater while the cooking heater whi	22. If solid fuel mentioned (code 3 at Q19, codes 1 or 6 at Q20, code 5 at Q21)	(a) Where is your solid fuel stored?	(b) Up (or down) how many steps and stairs must solid fuel be carried?
100										

Other aids (describe) .. [11

27. Does anyone in the house-hold use any of the following aids to movement? If yes, enter person it yes, enter person nos in coding column.

Wheelchair No X Walking frame (two-handed)

Norte ...

None used by anyone

Enter person no(s) in coding column

-7-

Heavy walking stick .. No X Other aids (describe). No X

Walking frame (one handed)

Crutches No X

Raised lavatory seat ... a Non-slip bath mat by way of signalling for help in emergency ... It (describe)

READ OUT CODE ALL THAT APPLY

(ii) Is it a three-wheeler? Yes .. 1

26. Which of the following aids for people with physical difficulties have you in the dwelling?

Additional rail on

0 go to 032					×	q'are								
:					× :		off		7		510		0 - 0	
p any other elderly None ())	What done			hold say: nd over about their out the jobs done by	out about the Iderly folk in the family. DNA - no younger workers X	under 65	Industry	No of employees	1-24	No of employees	1-24		No of employees	
are r o hel a) (b	D.			65 ar	ind we e	rker	off use		7 7		7 7			7
(Aust. Titum spall, for whom they are exapposable), which of the beauster embets do sampling to help any other elderly aground research and ASEK (a) (b) and only marked the sampling (see the beautiful pressent the sample of the beautiful pressent and the beautiful	r Person helped Relationship N Sex Age Relationship		1 2	32. If any workers aged under 65 in household say: I'm going to talk to people aged 65 and over about their working lives, but I'd like to ask about the jobs done by	the younger people. We want to find out about the ramily. responsibilities of people who have elderly folk in the family. DNA - no younger worl	Record person no. and job for each worker under 65	Occupation		Self-employed . Employee		Self-employed . Employee		Self-employed .	Employee
31. CA RE CA	Helper Person			32. II	# 2	Record	Per- son no.							
1) 1) 1) 1) 1) 1) 1) 1)	Yes 1 No 2	Yes laska,b No 2 sec in-		3.5	ut . 2		X go to Y blue q'aire		0 go to				T	7
2 6 2 5 5 5		N Ke		difficulty at all	to have	LDERLY ARE	oarders	ry fr	None					
2 6 2 5 5 5			ily, with difficulty	Easily	glad to have the Glad to have ithout it? Rather be without .	old in the household to Q32. ONT! IF ALL ELDERLY ARE	DNA - no pounger people	ver in household) which of d. have any responsibility utside the household?		Record sex, age and	What done			
2 6 2 5 5 5			household manage it easily, with difficulty	Easily With difficulty Not at all		adults under 65 years old in the household of subject and ask Q30 to Q32. ONLY IF ALL ELDERLY ARE	DNA - no younger people DNA - all elderly are boarders	elping (people 65 and over in household) which of members of the household have any responsibility rly or infirm persons outside the household?		they responsible for? (Record sex, age and ship to helper). they do for thom?	a.			
26 If accommendation is a file, maisonmete or rooms in house (01) Trecord floor (Lawert Floor of maisonmetes or rooms) Ground Ground Spire,	If above ground floor (is. codes 1-4) (a) Is there a lift to this floor?	e a garden which the household have to maintain of to (accommodation for use of household)?	II yes (a) Can the household manage it easily, with difficulty or not at all?	Eastly With difficulty Not at all	(b) On the whole, are the household glad to have the garden or would you rather be without it? Sather be with	If there are any adults under 65 years old in the household introduce change of subject and ask Q30 to Q32. ONTHE IF ALL ELDERLY ARE	DNA - no younger people	30. Apart from helping (people 65 and over in household) which of the younger members of the household have any responsibility for any elderly or infirm persons outside the household?	RD PERSON NOS BELOU AND ASK (a) (b)	a) Who are they responsible for? (Record sex, age and relationship to helper). (b) What do they do for them?	Relationship to helper	2		1 2

- 10 -

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Length of interview with individual(s)

Area Address Person(s) ... Household ...

Serial number

33. Establish degree of mobility

BEDFAST permanently ask a,b
BEDFAST temporarily, usually HOUSEBOUND 2 ask a,b
BEDFAST temporarily, usually GDES OUT 3 ask c

Interviews may be carried out jointly and recorded on the same questionmaire (UNLESS NA RECORANT OAGETS) wherever there are two propros and of the household. Where two people are interviewed jointly there must be annewer

OUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF PERSONS AGED 65 AND OVER

If there are more than two persons aged 65 and over, they may all be interviewed Do NOT take joint interviews if the two persons are, for example, boarders who

are unconnected with each other.

in both columns.

at the same time but you will need to use a second questionnaire.

If it is more convenient or the informants wish to be interviewed separately, you should do so but use the same questionnaire. Enter person nos at the heads of the two columns, together with sex and age.

1 ask a,b 2 ask a,b 3 ask c

u

Sex Age Person no

6 ask c 4 ask a,b

Temporarily covers any disability from which informant is expected to recover: eg, broken leg makes him/her bedfast; housebound because of bad cold.

Goes out with assistance includes those who can only go out with a helper but where a helper is usually Housebound includes those who cannot get beyond garden, and those who only go out when fetched by ambulance.

"Psychologically" bedfast or housebound are to be available, goes out in wheelchair, car, etc. treated as such,

If permanently bedfast or housebound (1, 2, 4) ask (a) and (b)

(a) What keeps you in bed/in the house?

where a question is marked with a star* be specially careful to obtain individual

answers from each informant.

Where space does not parmit the two-column method of recording and answers have to be recorded one bars, the other, ALWAYS ENTER THE ANSHER OF THE PERSON OF THE LEFT HAND COLUMN FIRST.

ALWAYS KEEP THE ANSWERS OF THE SAME PERSON IN THE SAME COLUMN

One month or less (b) How long is it since you were last up/went out? ASK BEDFAST BOTH PARTS

Went

g g

Got Went

087654321 Over 1 month - 3 months
Over 3 months - 6 months
Over 6 months - 12 months Over 3 years - 5 years Over 10 years year - 3 years Over 1

H 2 M 4 M 9 M 9 M

087655

42645066

Vague, can't say GO TO Q34

Introduce change of subject ASK ALL dings which quite a few people have difficulty in class we things which quite a few people have difficulty in class you (read such item) on your one without any difficulty; on you (read such item) on your one with all you are all it Ask in respect of difficulty, only with help, or not at all; or not at all. (c) he help any out? one you want much help as you would like? (c) if no one to (a) or no one to (b), how do you amage?	Percon no Perc	Yes 1 Go to 1 G50		Tas 1 Co to 1 Go t
	##freq out (b)	(b) Enough halp? (c) Now do you manage?		(c) Now do you makage?
c) Yea 1 ask (U) Yea 1 ask (U) (III) No 2 ask (III) (IIII) (IIII) (IIII)			rt (0	
Perso	(1) Wat kind of illness or disability do you have?	(ii) In wast way does (complaint) hadicap you or interfers with your activities?	15 yes or no (iii) bond you say in general you wijey good health or not? Wes - 1	

- 1	1	1	1 1	1			
	1 Go to 2 (vdi) 3 Ask 4 s	0 Ask (c) 1] Ask 2] (b)	1 2 Ask (c)	1 See 2 below 3 Aask 4 a 0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 See below 2 Ask (c)	×	
	1 Go to 2 (vii) 3 Ask 4 a	0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 2 Ask (c)	1 See 2 below 3 Ask 4 Ja 0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 J(b)	Yes 1 Sec below No 2 Ask (c)	×	
Person no	Without any difficulty On own with difficulty Only with help Not at all	No one Of Member of household; person no Of Ask (Member of household; person of Other person (specify) Of (b)	Yes	(41) Our your own tow mails! Without any difficulty			
	(vi) Shave (men)? Brush and comb hair (women)	(a) Who helps?	(c) How do you manage?	(vii) <u>Gut your own toe nail</u> (a) Who helpe?	(b) Enough help? (c) How do you manage?	IF REERICS FERMINENTS (Code 1 st (33)) RING COME X AND CO TO (35 ALL OWNERS GO TO (viii)	
	1 Go to 2 (iv) 3 Ask 4 a	0 Ask (c) 1 Jask 2 J(b)	1 Go to (1v) 2 Ask (c)		1 Go to (v) 2 Ask (c)	00 to	1 Go to (vi) 2 Ask (c)
		0 Ask (c) 0 Ask (c) 1] Ask 1] Ask 2](b) 2 {(b)	1 Go to (1v) 2 Ask (c)	1 Go to 1 3 4 3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	1 Go to 1 (v) 2 A8k (c) 2	1004 010	7 7
	k C to	No one (a feet of household; person no 1] lake (1) 2 los (2) Other person (specify) 2 los (2) (6)	1	750 4 375	- N	Sticker any difficulty 1 0 o to 1 0 o to 0 o to 0 o to 1 0 o to 0 o to a to 1 0 o to a to 1 0 o to a to 1 0 o to a to 0 o to a to a to 0 o to a	0 1

	1] Go to 2] (x1) 3] Ask 4] a,b	0 Ask (c) 1 } Ask 2 } (b)	1 Go to (x4) 2 Ask (c)		1] Go to 2] Q35 3 7 Ask	4 Ja,b 5 Ask (c) 0 Ask (c) 1 Ask		1 Go to (35 2 Ask (c)			
	1 Go to 2 (xd) 3 Ask 4 a,b	0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 Go Eo (xt) 2 Ask (c)		1 Go to 2 Q35 3 Ask	5 Ask (c) 0 Ask (c) 1 Ask		1 Go to Q35 2 Ask (c)			
Person no	Without any difficulty On own with difficulty Only with help Not at all	No one 0 Aak (c) Hember of household: person no .1 3 Ask Other person (specify) 2 / (b)	Yes		Without any difficulty 1 06 to 00 on with difficulty 2 935 on 1 Ask	Not at all bose not use public transport 5 Ask (c) No one 0 Ask (c) Member of household; person no 1 3 Ask	Other person (speckly)	Yes			
	(x) Go out of doors on your oun?	(a) Who helps?	(b) Enough help?	(c) How do you manage?	(x1) Use public transport?	(a) Who helps?		(b) Enough help?	(c) How do you manage?		
	1] Go to 2] (ix) 3] Ask 4] a.b.	0 Ask (c) 1] Ask 2] (b)	1 Go to (ix) 2 Ask (c)		1 See 2 below 3 Ask 4 a,b	0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 See below 2 Ask (c)			> 4	
	1 Go to 2 (1x) 3 Ask 4 a.b	0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 Go to (1x) 2 Ask (c)		1 See 2 below 3 Ask 4 a,b	0 Ask (c) 1 Ask 2 (b)	1 See below 2 Ask (c)			H	
Person no	Without any difficulty On own with difficulty Only with help Not at all	No one 0 Ask (c) Heaber of household; person no 1 1 Ask Other person (specify) 2 (b)	Yes		Without any difficulty 2 below On own with difficulty 2 below Only with help 3 Ask Nor at all 4 3 a,b	No one	Yes			es 2 and 4 at Q33)	
	Get up and down stairs/ steps? (including outside home)	(a) Who helps?	(b) Enough help?	(c) How do you manage?	(1x) Get around the house/	(a) Who helps?	(b) Enough help?	(c) How do you manage?		IF HOUSEBOUND PERMANENTLY (Codes 2 and 4 at (33)) GO TO (35 AND RING CODE Y OTHERS ASK (x) AND (x4)	

19, March de nichtiest gene per 18 19 MIRTORY de l'accommange des la commande de l'accommande de l'accommande

Person no

ASK PERMANENTLY BEDFAST OR HOUSEBOUND (Codes 1, 2 and 4 at Q33)

task corr
poud correction to the correction to t Many jobs in geten Light jobs in geten Demp flours Wash flours Mahs flows, carry fee Wash clothes Clean windows inside Clean Vindows outside Vash paintwork Minor rapairs eg. fuss Repairs and redicorati Maka a cup of tea Cook a main meal Repairs and refacors outsids Cut the laws

	1 Ask (a) 1 Ask (a) 2Go to Q40					
	1 Ask (a)					
Person no	Yes					
Perso	ASK ALL. 39. Does the cost of keeping yourself wars seen that you have to go without other things?	If yes (a) What do you have to do without in order to keep warm?				
	Yes No DNA 1 2 - 1 2 A 1 2 A		H 2 E 4 S	स्टल्ड	ଳ ଅନ୍ୟର	1284
	fes No DNA)		126.42	H 0 60 4 10	1 0 0 4 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	H 10 10 12
Introduce new subject	ASK ALL. *98. in the winter, are you were enough to bed	CODE ALL THAT APPLY USE DNA CODE WHEN APPROPRIATE FOR BEDFAST OR HOUSEBOUND ASK (a)(b)(c)(d) for all coded $\frac{2}{3}$	If not ware in the control of the co	If not warm in Maring 100m On difficulty with right of across, because you have difficulty with right of across, because you can't draughty or for another reason! Difficulty with fires CONE ALL THAN APPLY HEAD TO CHANGE THE THEORY THAN APPLY HEAD THE THEORY THAN APPLY HEAD CHANGE THE THEORY THAN APPLY HEAD THE THEORY THAN APPLY HEAD THEORY THAN APPLY HEAD CHANGE THE THEORY THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THEORY THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THE THE THE THE THEORY HEAD CHANGE THE THE THE THE THE TH	If met warm in the kitchen becames you have (C) Are you not ware in the kitchen becames you have (difficulty with he store, no means of bearing agent from cooker, becames you can't afford to spend more on fivel or the kitchen is draughty or for another reason? (Difficulty with he areove. A compared to the compared to the kitchen is draughty or for the kitchen is draughty or for the kitchen in the compared to	

		rt N		
		2.2		
Person no	1.1.1		Years. Years. Years. Months Months	_
	*41. Now leang howey you streed in this maighbourhoost all parts of this quantities. The sea than 3 years in If-leas than 10 years and If-leas than 10 years and (s) *(a) Mares and you like before this? *(b) Where and you like before this? *(b) Walte work your research for movitae on this in the search of the search of the search of the you like you like you like you like you like you like you won't you want you will write you research for movitae on this you.	particular meighbourhood? To the control of the con	If lives along ask (c) (c) How long how you lives along (d.s. as one person household) If widowed ask (d) (d) How long howe you been widowed? If divorced, reparated ask (s) (s) How long how you been part from (If divorced, reparated ask (s) (s) How long how you been apper from (life divorced class along the part from (If divorced class along the control of t	14
			8 4 5 5 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	
	100400c	ল থ ল ব গ ত দ জ	8 7 6 7 5 4 3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Person no	Introduce change of analyser; (0. (a) In what country were you born! (1. (a) In what country were you born! (1. (a) In what country were you born! (2. (a) In what you wan	(b) If not inverviously, married coults has either adderly informatic is has been married; (include younget stone). The mounted in household in the married for the born's been serviced for the could be the could b	Wales, Scotland) Macconstant Market	13

	Ask a 1 Ask a Go to 2 Go to Q43 Q43	Ask 2 Ask 4 -b-e 5 Ask c,d 6 Ask c,d	H N M 4 N 10 N 20 M 30	Ask (i) 1 Ask (i) Go to d Go to d		Ask 1,11 l Ask 1,11 Go to e 2 Go to e	
Terroduce change of subtace	from thos close rel	*(a) How often do may of your close relatives sanage Several threat week	*(b) Which relatives are able to visit you most often? Dambare(b) And law 22 Same(b) And law 22 Same(b) And law 22 Same(b) And law 22 That APPA Cornelliation 24 That APPA	Ask (c) and (d) of all with living relatives *(c) Are there any semess) relatives who would wisit you (more often) if it weren't for the expense? Yes 1 No 2	17 Watch omes? 17 Watch omes? 17 Watch omes? 18 Watch of Mark	ore es often)? No 2	(1) Which means? Dampher (c) / fin 1 law CODE ALL CODE ALL CONSTITUTION CONSTITUT

Person no	۵	No 2 Ask b 2 Ask b		Ad. TMAI APPLI Asy other particular kinds of people 5 (describe)	If we or no to main question (b) Was 20s to Q44 2 or to Q44 7 or to Q44 2 or to Q44 2 or to Q44 2 or to Q44 2 or to Q44 3	ž.	47 VI	*If wes to main question	(a) Are your friends able to do maything to hatp you when thay come! If year what things? No 0 0	Person	Person	61
			1								,	
Person no	(ii) Why isn't able to wisit you (more often)?	Reason for not visiting (more often)					Ask all who receive visits (codes 1-5 at part (a)) (a) Are your relatives able to do saything to help you when they visit? What do they do?	Help given and to whom (person no.)				τι
	(11) WE yo	Relative	Person no.	Person no.	Person no.	Person no.	Ask all who (e) Are you when	Relative				

44. (a) Which of the following has called here to see (elderly) during the past six months? Ask (b) and (c) in respect of those who have called.

NOTE: VISITS IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY ARE TO BE INCLUDED (c) If joint interview who does ____ come to see? (b) How often does ____ call on you?

NOTE: VISITS IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY ARE TO BE INCLUDED	(a) (b) How often (c) Who is	More than Once Once a Less often order a fort- often veck night state	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	2 1 2 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	2 3 4 4 5 1	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	1 1 2 3 4 1 2	
AL CAPACITY ARE		than													
PERSO	(a)		-	-		1	н	н	-	-	-	-			
NOTE: VISITS IN A		READ OUT	Doctor	Health visitor	Community (dis- trict) nurse	Home help (LA)	Council welfare officer (specify)	Social security/ supplementary benefits visiting officer	Meals on Wheels	Mobile library	Other official person (state)	Voluntary organisation (state)	Insurance man	Minister of religion	

Person no ASK Q45 OF ALL ABLE TO GO OUT (ie. codes 3, 5, 6, 7 at Q33) IF CANNOT GO OUT RING CODE Y AND GO TO Q46

*45. Do you ever go to see relatives or friends?

a) (b)

(e)

If goes to see relatives ask (a) and (b) (a) How often as a rule do you go to see any relatives?

12640

(b) Are you able to do anything to help them when you go to see them? No ... 0N

	44). If ever you needed help urgently, how many of retson no your neighbours volds you feel alie to sak? Now many of these are troughly your age? Youget? 48. Apart from relatives or general friends, do may of your neighbours call on you or do you call on them? Makes calls Makes calls Now the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on you or do you call on the call on you or do you call on you	AXX ALL ALLE TO GO OUT (Codes 3, 5, 6 and 7 at Q13) BMA - cannot go out Code to Code to Code to G55 G55 G55 G56 G57 G58 G58 G58 G58 G58 G58 G58	v often do you go to any? Note than once a week	(b) Mby dan't you go to may social contres? Person	30. Do you ever go to any other social centres? Yes Aak (a) Aak (b) Aak (c) 1 Aak	22
	নবলক গ	0			Mana	
Downson	11111	0 ox	All those who visit neither (c) Can you tail me why you enver visit any friends or relatives? Person	Person	AGE ALL To general, how do you get on with your neighbours? Word will with may de the weary well with most, TO work with any of final Wear well with most. Wear well with most. Wear well with most. Wear well with most. Wear well with most We well with the most We will will will will will will will wil	и

	1 Ask a,b, 1 Ask a,b, 2 Go to 2 Go to 3 954 3 954	1	an an	9		нова	1 Go to 1 Go to 054	Ask (1) 2 Ask (1)		
Person no	5). Are there are arrangements in this area for alderty people to use public tramport free yes or at a reduced rated?	If yes ank (a), (b), (c) (a) What kind of arrangement is there? Pass issued free Payment (fing code Pass issued on payment (fing code	and enter cost and unders of some Covered in Doors balon) These and the cost and the cost and and enter cost and under of months and enter cost and under of months covered in bose balon) Other arrangements (describe)	Cost of pass/tokens	Number of months	(b) Dest the sparkforms allow people to crowd free at all times, free at certain times or at a reduced rate at all times or at a reduced rate at all times or at a reduced rate at a reduced rate at all times or at a reduced rate at all times and reduced rate at a reduced reduced	(c) Have you got a pass or token(s)? Yes	No 2 If no *(1) May haven't you got a pass or tokens? *(2) May haven't you got a pass or tokens?		**
	X Go to Q52 1 Ask (a) 2 Ask (b) (c)	1 Ask (1) 2 Ask (b) (c)	ন্ধলক্ষত			0 Go to 053 1 1 2 3 3 5 5 6 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6		X Go to QS3 1 Ask (a) 2 Go to QS3	73351	0.54333
		Yes 1 Ask (1) No 2 Ask (b) (c)	H 2 E 7 S 9					~	4 3 2 H	65543321
Person no	If cut in loweshold (Q25) ask Q51, Pak, - no cut K Co to Q25 S1. Do you hold a driving licence? Yes . 1 Ask C No 2 Ask C No	If yes (a) Do you drive the car? Yes No 2	(1) Do you use the car for: Shopping'		If no to main questions or to (a), ask (b) and (c)	car? No clatives, friends? rips? hospital?	(describe)	In household (125) ask 132 DNA car in h yone take you out in a car at noce a fortnight?	(a) Who does so? Relative eithour Youngray vorker Other (specify)	(b) Does he/she take you: Shopping; Interpreted friends; 2 CODE ALL TRAIL APPLY To Assure ASSURED TO ASSURED TO ASSURE ASSURED TO AS

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54. We want to find out how accessible some places are.

Person no

ASK ALL

2 7	Pers- on no		H V E 4 V 0	1	40040
Own doctor's surgery	Pers- on no		6 S & B S H	1	112645
	Pers- on no		0 S P M S H	1	H (1) (1) 4 (1)
Nearest post office	Pers- on no		6 S & W 2 H	1	H C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
#1	Pers- on no		H 01 M 45 M 90 H	~	12648
Nearest	Pers- on no		400400	^	11 2 5 3 3 5 11
# # ®	Pers- on no		0.0400	1	M 2 M 2 M
Nearest chemist's shop	Pers- on no		0.0493	1	11 2 2 3 2 5 5 5 6 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
#1 5	Pers- on no		H 0 1 4 10 9	1	12648
Nearest public transport	Pers- on no		0 S 4 1 2 H	-	25.321
		How cons		Would not go	5 minutes or less 5 minutes or less 11-15 minutes 11-16-30 minutes 11-16-30 minutes 16-30 minutes (specify)

	0) 5 A8K(a) 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 11		7	0	0	নললক্ত	7 8 8 110 12	
	11 10 10 10	0 Ask (b)	-	0	0		212987	
*55. Do you belong to any societies or voluntary organisations such as these?	Organization content of the content	None	If belongs to any (a) Do you hold any office in any) take office (specify the control of the co	No oN 850 or 000	If none (b) Would you like to belong to any? None .	Organisation connected with others, other religious organisations connect of the other religious organisations. INDUITIONAL British Legions (Monen's Estations (Monen	TAM AFLY Trade union POLICIAL Organisation PROFESSION Organisation Red Cross Red Cross Others (specify with person no)	

^{*(}a) How would you unually get to each of the following, whether you use it or not. (COME UNIAL METROD UNIX. TOOR MAIN MEANS ORLY) *(b) How long does it usually take you?

Person no	of own ou like to have a pet (of m)	(4) What kind of per would you like? (5) Mark kind of per would you like? This After No. 100 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	If no If 3t (A) 1 As (A) 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	Area unsuitable, dangerous for pets 5 instriction to look after pet while informant out 6 above informant's health not good enough, physically 9.59	Don't like meimils	11 "restrictions on yets" (code 1) ank (A) If there were no restrictions on pets would you like to have a pet? 11 yea (1) What kind of pet would you like?	CODE ALL DE TANT APPLY OF GREATS)		28
		22	1 Ask (a) 2 Ask (a) 3 Go to Q58		1 Ask a,b 2 Ask (c) 3 Ask (c)	4 3 3 2 2 3 1	1 Ask (i) 2 See in- str'n above QS9		
		11 2	1 Ask (a) 2 Ask (a) 3 Go to 958		1 Ask a,b 2 Ask (c) 3 Ask (c)	H2.554	Yes 1 Ask (1) No 2 See instr'n str'n above (959		
Person no	56. One ob household question 24 and 1f phone in household and (e). The No Trees Go TO Gg3. If PROC. If PROC. If Apar (rem purb y business calls, how many phone calls do you unually make in a week?	(b) Now many do you usually receive? (c) Are you able to use the phone without Yes No	10 you ever receive personal lattice or cated frames 1 kek (a) 1 kek (b) 1 kek (c) 1 kek (c)	NOTE: latters etc addressed to one member of a married couple but intended for both are to be recorded in both on tumns	58. Have you any pets of your own or do any 'tes, own	(a) that pers have you? Cat(s)	*(b) by what any difficulty in Yes Indian steer your pet(b)! No	If yes (1) Want difficulties have you?	SEE INSTRUCTION ABOVE (59.

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The left hand side of the page relates to the person of the left-hand column and the right hand side to the person of the right hand column

Yes 1 ask No 2 (a)

Yes 1 ask No 2 (a)

(a) Why do you enjoy/not enjoy your work?

62. On the whole, do you enjoy your work?

Person no.

(a) Why do you enjoy/not enjoy your work?

0

62. On the whole, do you enjoy your work?

Person no

	1 2 Go to Q65	1 2		0 1 2 2	76 5 4 8 a	9 Go to Q62
person or rue right hand column	Effect to Household Composition and Account whether the control of the composition of the	Self employed Employee	Industry No of employees	1-24 25+ 60 Hog many house a seed do	CODE ONE Walk ONLY, IF Cycle ONLY, IF Cycle IN DOUBT, Perivate car CODE 7 AND GIVE DEFALLS (Train Other (specify)	Norks at home
o tue be	1 2 Go to 965	1 2		0 1 2 2	7 6 5 5 4 3 2 1	9 Go to Q62
cormus and the tight hand side to the	Percon no Percon no management to the management of the management	Self employed Employee	Industry No of employees	1-24 25+ 26. How many hours: a seek do.	CODE ONE Walk ONLY, IF Cycle IN DOUBT, Brivate car CODE T Bus AND GIVE Underground/tube. DETAILS Train Other (specify)	Works at home

35 10	1 ask(a) 2 ask(b) (c)	1 Go to Q70 2 ask(i)		
63. For from such longer to you hope to go on working? Don't know, can't say OUR is shown one as 'I'm fift A long as 'I'm allowed 'APLY Other (specify)	64. Is this the same job you were doing when you were doing when you cached retirement age for that is, refirement age for that job you were doing)?	If yes: (a) Are you working the same number of hours as you did then? as you did then? No	If no: (4) How many and you to work? For to work?	
33.2	1 ask(a) 2 ask(b) (c)	1 Go to q70 2 ask(1)		
63. For how man, lunger to you hope to go much lunger to go much read. Do not know can't say. ONE ALL As inclined and the following an in fill control of the following and the fill control of the fill control o	64. Is this the same job you were doing when you were doing when you full is, relievent age for his fay you were doing)? Yes	If yes: (a) Are you working the same number of hours as you did then? No	If not (1) liou may have to work? So To Gro	

59

minutes

minutes

(a) How long does the journey to work usually take?

(a) How long does the journey to work usually take?

Person	66. Why did you stop working Realth reasons Compliancy retirement Of Management Of Son Edundant Compliance of Son Edundant Compli	All hed to look after on the street of the s	67. Would you have liked to go on working? Yes	If informent finelly gave up work before the age of 40 OMIT 068-69	68. What job were you doing when you last worked? What did you actually make or do?	<u>Occupation</u>	Self emplo Employee	Industry	No of employ		
		2.1		2110	1 2	W 4 N 9 L				1	670
Person no	If no to main question ask (b) and (c) (b) What job were you doing than? What did you actually make or do?	Occupation Self employed Employed	Industry No of employees	1-24	hy did you change your ob; Forced retirement Fanted to retire (nes)			Ask Q's 65-69 of all NON WORKERS	65. How old were you when you last worked?		Never worked
		2 11		210	12	16486				3	070
Person no	If no to main question ask (b) and (c) (b) What job were you doing than? than? than? What did you actually make or do?	Occupation Salf employed Employed	Industry No of employees	11-24	hy did you change your Fobse Factored retirement			Ask Q's 65-69 of all NON WORKERS	65. How old were you when you last worked?		Never Worked

	1	2.7		2 1	2 2
Person no	64. My 4d you stop working? Complete or stop working? Complete or stop working or stop worki	67. Would you have liked to go on working? Yes No If informant finally gave up work before the age of 40 OWIT 060-69	68. What Job were you doing when they have worked! The flat lane worked! The flat of do! Occupation	Self employed Employee Industry No of employees	
	10 10 10	2 2 1		2 1	2 2 2
Person no	66. My did you seep working? Complex of the complex pertension of the	80 on working? Yes No If informant finally gave up work before the age of 40 OWIT 066-99	68. What 109 were you ding when you late worked? What fid you actually make or do? Occupation	Self employed Employee Industry No of employees	23+

Person no	69. Was your last job the one
Person no	69. Was your last job the one you had been doing for

		Yes 1 Go to Q70 No 2 ask(a) (b)(c)				2 1
C SUPPLIES	69, Was your last job the one you had been doing for most of your working life?	Yes	If no (a): What was your of for most of your working life?	What did you actually make or do?	Occupation	Self employed Employee
		1 Go to Q70 2 ask(a) (b)(c)				2
Person no	69. Was your last job the one you had been doing for most of your working life?	Yes 1 Go to Q70 No 3 abk (a) (b) (c) (c) (c)	If no (a): What was your job for most of your working life?	What did you actually make or do?	Occupation	Self employed Employee

0 1-24 25+ sons No of employees Industry 0 0 1-24 1 25+ 2 No of employees Industry 9

(b) What were your rear for giving up that job?	Code Compulsory retirem All Redundancy Hot. Ill health GPO! Getting married To look after spour To look after spour To look after spour Other (specify)	
	12643978	
What were your reasons for giving up that job?	Compulsory retirement Redundancy	

Code ####

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Yes No (c) Would you have liked to have gone on doing that Job? вех No to have gone on doing (c) Would you have liked that 1ob?

33

NOTES ON INCOME QUESTIONS (TO BE ASKED OF ALL)

There are some modifications in the arrangement of the questions relating to filance (fances, savings and commitments). These are necessary because of the different situations you may encounter.

To make recording easy, the sets of questions appear twice, but very often it will only be necessary to use the first set (i.e. for a married couple or one elderly person). The Sources of income are different for men and women (e.g. a man cannot race a widow' pension). Therefore we have columns headed "manflumband" and "women/rife" is BEE TO PUT THE ORBROT PRESSON NO. ANT THE HEAD OF EACH. THE TEXANGE QUESTIONS HAVE THE COLUMNS IN THE SAME OFFICE.

Procedure is as follows:

Where interviewing a married couple, both aged 65 or over, use first set of questions. Where interviewing a married elderly person whose spouse is under 65 years of one first set of questions AND INCLUDE INCOME ETC. OF THE NON-ELDERLY SOUSE.

Where interviewing two persons aged 65 and over who are not a married couple, use first set of questions for one, second set of questions for the other. Be sure to use the correct sex column.

If you are interviewing more than two persons aged 65 and over you will be using a second questionnaire. The same procedure will apply.

You may ask questions 70-71 in whichever order seems most suitable.

ASK ALL

INTRODUCE INCOME QUESTIONS

We'd like to find out what kinds of financial problems people may have. I'd therefore like to talk about your income (and that of your spouse). Would you please tell me into which of these groups SHOW CARD the TOTAL NET income of yourself (and your husband/wife) comes?

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	0 3	10	£ 15	£ 20 -	06 3	0,0	£ 60 or over	
	w	Gal.	4	w	si.	ш	w	

Remind informant, if necessary, to include spouse's income even if spouse is aged under 65

ALL INFORMANTS

71. SOURCES OF INCOME - Show list and/or read out

Which of the following sources of income have you (and your husband/wife)? (include common-law husbands/wives)

INCLUDE SPOUSE'S INCOME EVEN IF HE/SHE IS NOT ELLERLY. JOINT INCOME means an income paid jointly to humband and wife, or to one on behalf of both.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES to be treated as mother's income unless she is not present in the household

	Joint	-	2	3		50	9	1	00	0,	10
	Woman/ wife	-	2	3	4	s	9	7	00	6	10
	Man/ husband	-	2	9	1	5	9	7	60	6	10
Person nos		Wages or salary from employment	self-employed	Pension(s) from former employer(s) or spouse's employer	Any kind of State widow's pension or widow's allowances	National Insurance Retirement Pension or Old Person's Pension	Supplementary pension, supplementary allowance	Attendance allowance	Other state payments (e.g. war disability pension, war dependant's pension, unemployment, sickness or invalidity benefits, femily allowances, FIS, maternity benefit, industrial disablement pension).	Other kinds of regular alloances from organisations, relatives or friends outside the household (e.g. maintename for self or children from ex-spouse, income from TU, friendly society or chartichle organisation	Amenity income from property, shares, trents (including boraders, lodgers, sub-tenants, interest from savings, benk accounts, bonds, building societies

T WIFE) T N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N					- 2		1 2							3 5 1			the state	Yes N		weeks	months			
FE)								1							1		24	í						
CMIT THIS QUESTION WHERE INFORMANT (HUSBAND/ WIFE) IS DRAITHN SUPPLEMENTARY PERSION OR ALLOGANCE (Gode 6 at Q71)	74. Do you (your husband/wife) have any		(1) The bank, savings bank, co-op, savings certificates, building	society, premium bonds?	Yes	(11) Stocks, shares, including War Loan, etc.?	No	(111) Property other than this dwelling house?	Yes	IF HAS ANY SAVINGS (1.e. code 1	ringed anywhere):	(a) Taken together, would you say that altogether (not counting	this house if owned) you (and your husband/your wife) have:	, 60ver 12,500 5300 - £2,500 Less than £30.	IF ELDERLY PERSON IS HOH AND THERE ARE NON-ELDERLY	MORKING RELATIVES (APART FROM SPOUSE) IN HOUSEHOLD ASK O75 OTHERS OF TO O 76	75 Do(ec) make any receilar contributions res	housekeping? tegana contraduction was	If yes: (a) How much do they pay in total?	(b) How long a pariod does this cover?			38	
		0	d 3		0	4 3		0 4		0	G.		0		d s					0 1 ask (a)(b)	d 3			
		0	d 3		0	d g		0 4	İ	0	d 3		0		e p					0 1 ask (a)(b)	d 3			
		0	Бр		0	d.		0 4		0	d.		0		a u					0 1 ask (a)(b)	d 3			
72. (a) Do you or your husband/wife have any of the following regular financial commitments? (b) How much does each amount to?	(c) How long a period does this cover?	READ OUT EACH Television rental No		POLICE WEEKS	Life insurance endowment No	Amount Period: weeks	months	Nail order, clothing clubs No Arount	Period: weeks	Hire purchase (specify items) No	Total amount	Period: weeks	months Any others (specify) No		Total amount	SEE INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT O'S 72 72 72 72	months months	IF ELDERLY PERSON(S) LIVE(S) WITH RELATIVES AND NEITHER IS HOH ASK 73. OTHERS SEE 974	73. Do you make any regular contributions towards the housekeeping?	Yes	If yes (a) How much do you pay?	(b) How long a period does this cover?	Months	37
			idening regular finimizal comitments? # much does each amount to of ing a period does this cover?	figs regular finincial commitments and does not amount to a finincial commitments or a period does this cover? No a period does this cover? No a period does this cover?	icuting regular finincial comfinence? I mush doss each amount te? I must a period doss this core? OR Television rental No 0 0 0 Amount L p L p L p Period: seeks Period: seeks months	including regular fitaincial comfinence? I now a period does this core? CR	Could gree last finite in comition to	iculug regular finimical comfinence? Fund does acan mount of the covert	Could gree last finiseial comitioning	identity continue continue	County regular finishial comitioning	Could gree last finise; all comitioning free last and manuful constituents	Could gree last finiseial comitioning	Could gree laid finite in Comfigure Comfigure		County regular finishial compliance;	Comparison of the continuous			Objecting regular faminical compliances	(b) Now much done such amount to 10 o 0 0 0 EXECUTE AND THE STATE OF	(b) Now much done such amount to 10 comfinence? (c) Now much done such amount to 10 comfinence? NOTE EXCEL Intelligible Served Note Excel Note Ex	Coliouing versilar fainicall compliance	Objecting regular fainceall compliance

Yes 1 ask (a)(b) No 2 -d-3

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Man/ Woman/ Joint

X

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ASK ALL

INTRODUCE INCOME QUESTIONS

We'd like to find out what kinds of financial problems people may have. I'd therefore like to talk about your income (and that of your spouse). 70. Would you please tell me into which of these groups SHOW CARD the TOTAL NET income of yourself (and your husband/wife) comes?

	-	7	3	4	'n	9	7	
Annua1	. 665 3 -	. 647 3 - 008	· 666 3 - 052	. 1000 - £ 1499	. 1500 - 1999	- £ 2999		
Ann	1		1	1		1	ä	
	0	200	750	1000	1500	2000	£ 3000 or over	
	w	3	u	G.	ы	s.	si.	
Weekly	66.6 3 - 0	£ 10 - £ 14.99	£ 15 - £ 19.99	£ 29.99	£ 39.99	£ 40 - £ 59.99	f 60 or over	
	- 1	ı	- 1			- 1	or	
	0	01	15	£ 20 -	£ 30	40	9	
	3	u	u	oi.	u	ul	u	

Remind informant, if necessary, to include spouse's income even if spouse is aged under 65.

ALL INFORMANTS

71. SOURCES OF INCOME - Show list and/or read out

Which of the following sources of income have to dust your heabsubloite)? (Unclude commonise hubbands bares)

The property of the property of the SERE IS NOT ELERLY. JOINT IMPOSE seasons an accome and behalf of both.

FAMILY ALLOHANCES
to be treated as
mother's income
unless she is not
present in the
household

	Joint	1 2	9	1	s	9	7	œ	•	01	
	Woman/ wife	1 2	6	4	5	9	7	00	6	10	
	Man/ husband	1 2	3	1	s,	9	7	œ	6	10	
Person nos		Wages or salary from employment Income from business, practice, etc. if self- employed	Pension(s) from former employer(s) or spouse's employer	Any kind of State widow's pension or widow's allowances	National Insurance Retirement Pension or Old Person's Pension	Supplementary pension, supplementary allowance	Attendance allowance	Other state payments (e.g. war disability pension, var dependen! 9 pension, unemployment, sickness or invalidity benefits, family allocances, FIS, maternity benefit, industrial disablement pension).	Other kinds of regular allowances from organisations, relatives or friends outside the homobold (e.g. maintenames for self or children from ex-spouse, mincome from IV, friendly society or charitable organisation	Annuity, income from property, shares, rents (facinding boarders, lodgers, sub-canats, interest from savings, bank accounts, bonds, building societies	

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Man/ Woman/ John husband wife		74. Do you (your husband/affs) have any money 14:: (1) The bank, anvirige their, co-ep, anvirige retrifficients, co-ep, anvirige retrifficients, building searchy, premium bouch building	Yes 1 No. 12 No.	War Loan, etc.? Ves 1 1 1 No 2 2 2	(titi) Property other than this dealling/house?	2	(a) Taken together, would you say that a loogether (one counting this house if ownly you (and your bushand/your wife) have:	0ver 2, 500 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1F ELDEALY PERSON IS HOW AND THERE AND NOW-ELDEALY MORNING RELATIVES (MORNEY FROM SPOURE) IN HONSPROIL ANX UP OFFICES OF DO Q.75 The contributions example the	housekeeping? Tes 1 ask (a)(b)	If yes: (a) Now much do they pay in rotal? (b) Now long a period does this cover?	gooths		42
Joint		0 3	0 d		٥	0 9			<u>а</u>		1 ask	(a)(b)		
Woman/ wife		0 4	0 4		D & W	0 4	0		d d		0 1 ask			
Man/ husband		0 3	0 4		0 4	0 4	0		O		0 1 ask	E p		
	(a) Do you or your husband/wife have any of the following regular financial commitments? (b) How much does each amount to?	(c) Now long a pariod doss this cover; READ OUT EACH AND RECORD ANDURES ANDURES Period: weeks	Life insurance endowment No Amount	Period: weeks	Amount Amount Period: weeks	Hire purchase (specify items) No Total amount	Period: weeks months Any others (specify) No		SEE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE Q'S 73,74,75 months	IF ELDERLY PERSON(S) LIVE(S) WITH RELATIVES AND NEITHER IS HOH ASK 73. OTHERS SEE Q74	 Do you make any regular contributions towards the housekeeping? No Yes 	If yes (a) How much do you pay?	(b) How long a period does this cover? Weeks	Months

		3 5 5 1	1 ask (a)(b) 2 Go to Q78	- 0 F		0				
		322 ==	1 ask (a)(b) 2 Go to Q78	H 24 E		0				
Person no	ASK ALL WHO MENTION READING: (Gode 1 at 76(a), code 1 at 76(b))	(f) Do you read books, magarines, newspapers? CODE ALL Books TRAY APLY Magarines Newspapers	77. ASK ALL WID HAVE ANY HORBIES (code i at 76) De you have may difficulties in carrying on your hobbies and interested? Yes No No	If yes (a) what kinds of difficulties? DO NOT PROPER Synsisted CODE ALL Other (specify with person no). THAT APPLY Other (specify with person no).	1	(b) What, if anything, could be done to help you carry on with them. Nothing	Person no			
	l ask (a) 2 see below	-264	2 9 8 7 6 5 110 110	12 12 13 12 14 13 15 14 13 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15		1 ask (f)	, 12	2 1 2	2 1	
	1 ask (a) 2 see below	୷ଧରଙ	11098765	12 14 15 16		1 ask (f)	1 2 2	1 2 2	2 2	
ASK ALL	76. Have you any hobbies or interests? Yes No	If yes (a) What are they? Randing crocker Katting crocker DO NOT Gredening, forefaulture		APPLY Woodwork, expenty control of Cooking, balking with emissing etc. Activities in commention with church coher activities (specify with person no)	IF NO TO MAIN Q'N ASK (b)-(a) OF WOMMN, (b)-(d) OF MAN. IF ANY OF CODES 1.2.5.6, NOT RINGED at (a) ASK AS INDICATED	(b) If reading (code 1) nor mentioned mak: Do you do any reading? Wes No	(c) If watching TV (code 5) not mentioned ask: Do you watch TV at all? Ves No	(d) If listening to radio (code 6) not mentioned ask; Do you listen to the radio at all? Yes No	(e) If knitting (code 2) not mentioned by woman belo you do any knitting? Yes No	

	Komamana r	8 6 0 11 5 12 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	
	×0172400 7	8 8 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	
80. Would you like to make any suggestions for things that could be done to help elderly people?	0 No engestions at all MA (grow) . DR NOT Post tray beaten	Volumery beloes to sesist with tests Volumery beloes to design of the Volumery objects of the Company Register sedical/selfers wister for company Register sedical/selfers wister benefits Foreiston of sense satisful benefits Foreiston of tester public tramport Foreiston of cerestical seditities Foreiston of coler local facilities (e.g. there's public from of sasistance (specify with person on)	

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			X0-10 6450 86	7 1 0 X	£4 N≈ C 8 € Ö	
Person no	ALL	78. What, if anything, do you particularly dislike about your own life at present?	O Phanacial difficulties (Nothing Composition) On poor health, physical dishallity On poor health, gloysical dishallity On poor health, gloysical dishallity Loss of perform, londiness water from loss of perform compositions water from loss of perform to perform the composition of the compositi	O NNA-proxy Just happy, enjoy life (no further details) Enjoys life because of Enally, friends, company Likes freedom, more time, being at home, because	ODD Freited ALL ALL ALL ALL AND PAGE AND TRANSMENT CONTROL OF A CARL From AND PAGE AND TRANSMENT CONTROL OF A CARL FROM AN	

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Interviewer's comments

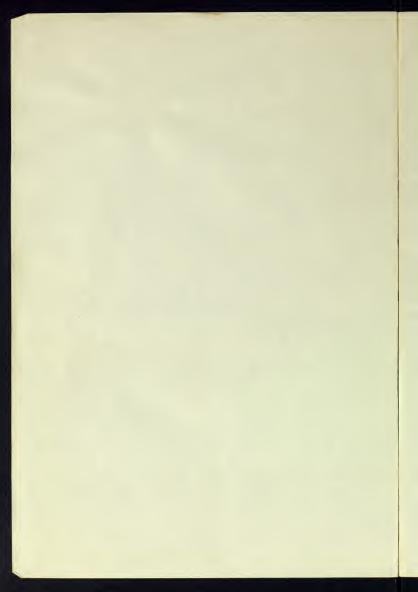
Please comment on the following and add any further comments you think appropriate

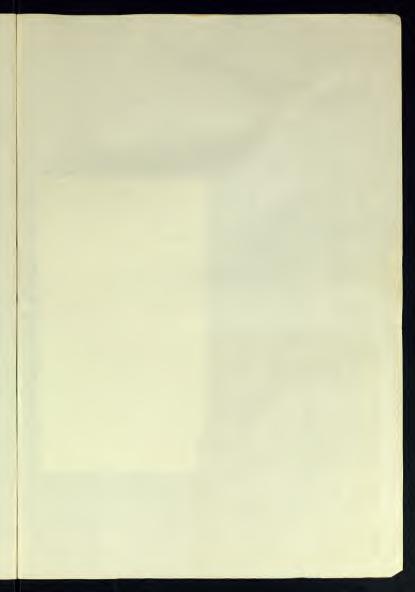
a) Reception of interview by informant(s)

b) Alertness of informant(s)

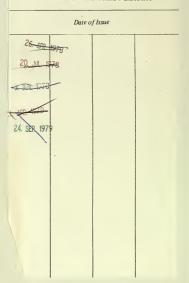
- c) Comfort of room of interview

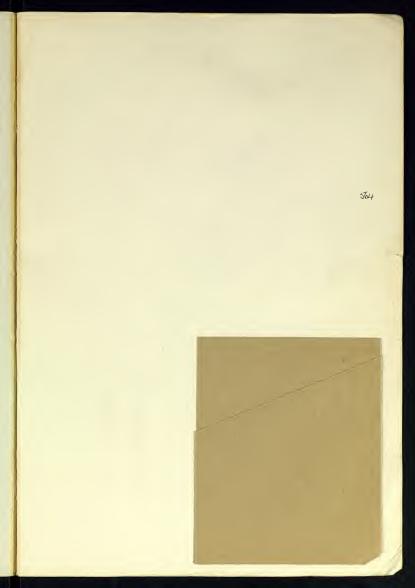
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